DOH probes probable SARS victim in Eastern Samar

Story in ACROSS, PAGE A14

Braganza wants out for 'health' reasons

By Carlito Pablo

JUST over four months into his appointment as press secretary, Hernani "Nani" Braganza now wants out.

"Health reasons" was reportedly the official explanation given for Braganza's resignation on Tuesday. But a Palace source said there were "unofficial" reasons as well.

BRAGANZA/A18

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Friday, April 25, 2003 ★★★ 96 pages / 11 sections / vol. 18 / no. 136 P15 website: www.inq7.net

Use pork against SARS, solon urges colleagues

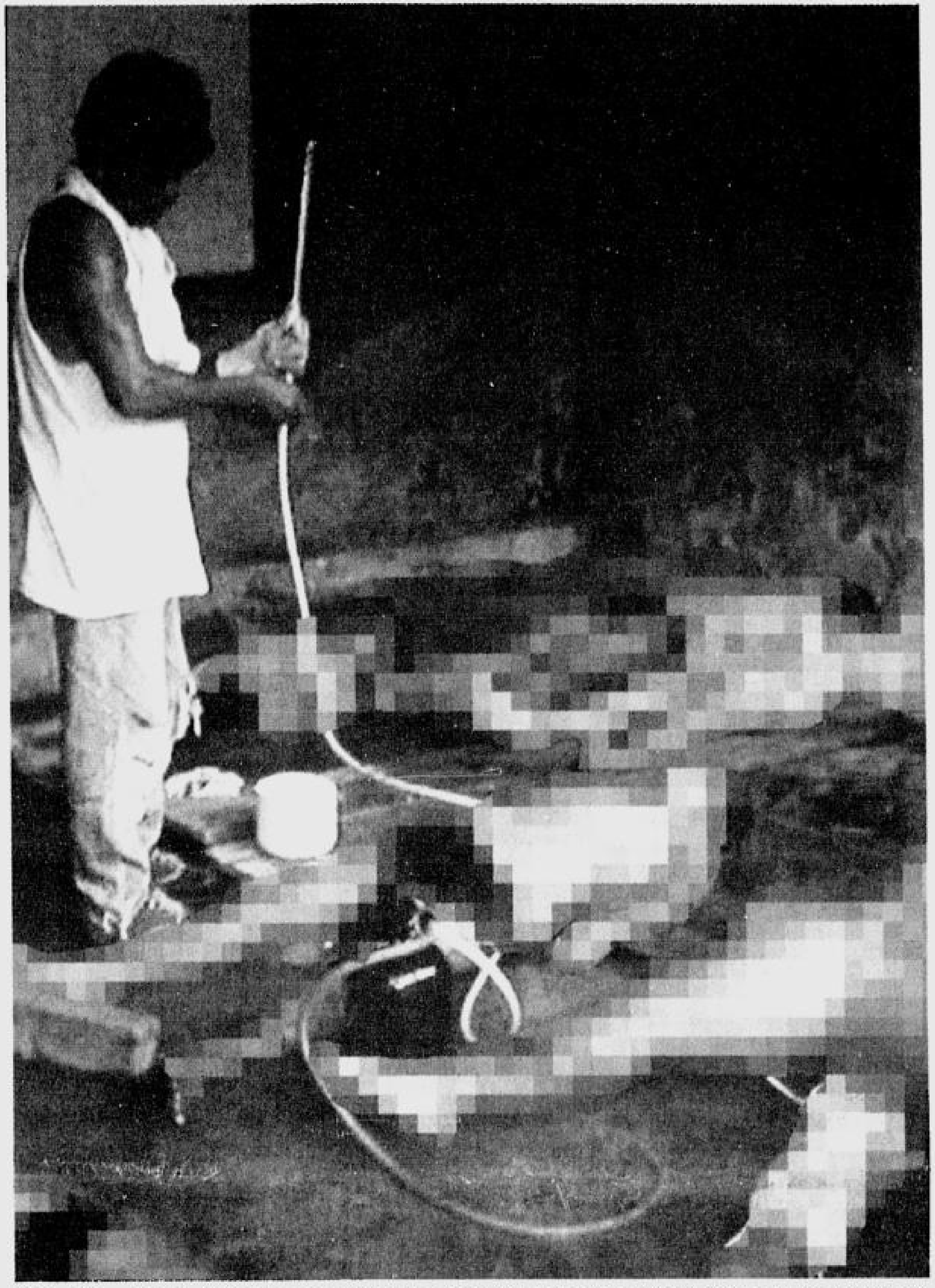
By Juliet Labog-Javellana

MINUS the kickbacks, the pork barrel can be used in the fight against Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

A congressman called on his fellow legislators to set aside a portion of their pork barrel to finance the Department of Health's campaign to check the spread of SARS in the country.

USE PORK/A7

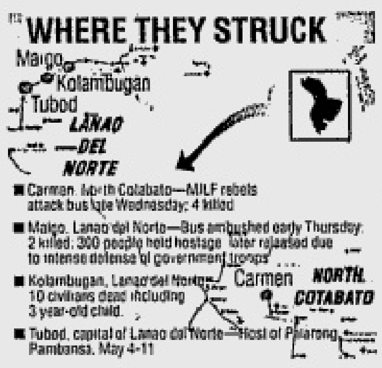
16 dead as MILF goes on rampage



TEN civilians killed in Kolambugan town in Lanao de Norte by MILF guerrillas lie in a morgue. The assault on the town began at daybreak Thursday. But by early morning government troops had cleared the area of rebels. The escaping rebels took three policemen captive.

REUTERS

WHERE THEY STRUCK


Maigo
Kolambugan
Tubod
LANAO DEL NORTE
Carmen
NORTH COTABATO
■ Carmen, North Cotabato—MILF rebels attack bus late Wednesday; 4 killed
■ Maigo, Lanao del Norte—Bus ambushed early Thursday; 2 killed; 300 people held hostage later released due to intense defense of government troops
■ Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte—10 civilians dead including 3-year-old child.
■ Tubod, capital of Lanao del Norte—Host of Palarong Pambansa, May 4-11

Gov't troops mount fierce counterattack

By the PDI Mindanao Bureau

TUBOD, Lanao del Norte—In the worst outbreak of fighting since February, some 600 MILF rebels yesterday staged separate attacks in two towns in this province—leaving at least 16 people dead and at least 10 others wounded.

At one point, the rebels held over 300 persons hostage, but after retreating in the face of intense military counterattacks, abandoned all but three hostages, all of them police officers.

"Our purpose in staging this series of attacks starting today is to cripple the country's economy," the MILF leader who claimed responsibility for the attacks, Abduraman Macapaar, also known as Commander Bravo, said.

Eid Kabalu, spokesperson for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, said the latest offensive was part of the MILF's "continuing active defense against military forces." But he denied that any hostages had been taken.

The attacks followed a rebel ambush in North Cotabato province on Wednesday afternoon, which killed an anti-MILF barangay captain, his son, two escorts, and injured 10 other victims. Only late last month, government and rebel negotiators meeting in Kuala Lumpur had agreed to resume the stalled peace talks.

The MILF attacked Kolambugan town at about 5 a.m. and Maigo

16 DEAD/A19

Abu beheaded her hubby; baby rejects her

By Carlito Pablo

ONE thought kept Emily Mantic going through eight harrowing months at the hands of the Abu Sayyaf: her daughter Jenny May.

For the 22-year-old mother, Jenny May was all that was left of her world. The Abu Sayyaf beheaded her husband Lionel on the night of Aug. 22, 2002—two days after the couple and four other members of the Jehovah's Witnesses were abducted in Patikul, Sulu.

So when Emily and another woman hostage, Cleofe Montulo, crawled to freedom on April 18, 2003, Emily looked forward to the reunion with her daughter.

But Jenny May, now 3 years old, has failed to recognize her mother. She cries when Emily tries to carry her.

ABU/A18

GMA bares tough measures to fight SARS

By Carlito Pablo and Christine O. Avendano

THE GLOVES are off as far as containing the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome is concerned.

President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday announced the imposition of legal sanctions as part of "stringent yet humane measures" to prevent the spread of the killer disease. She said her administration could not "allow indiscipline to ride roughshod over the public interest."

"Those who willfully evade health checks at our ports of entry or who falsify their health data will be charged for violations of law. Those who violate quarantine rules will be exposed and likewise sanctioned," she said in a statement.

To provide the framework for the tough anti-SARS measures, the President said she would issue an executive order to "consolidate our campaign and beef up the capacity of our authorities to meet the threat."

Her spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said the executive order would be jointly drafted by Presidential Legal Counsel Avelino Cruz and the government's SARS team led by Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit.

"We'll have to put teeth to whatever measures will be put in

GMA/A20

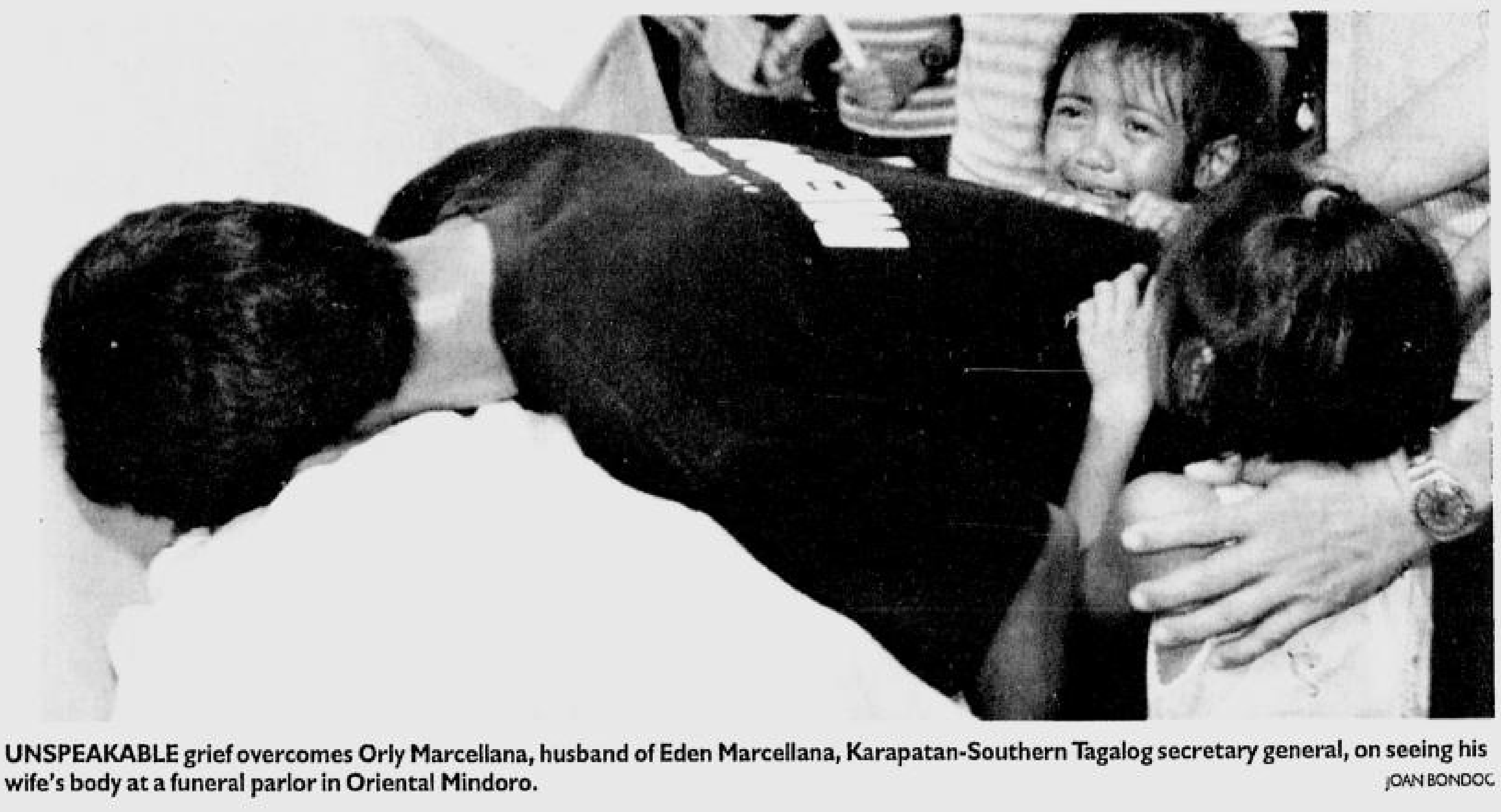
Beijing seals off 2nd hospital

BEIJING—China sealed off a major Beijing hospital yesterday, swiftly implementing a policy of quarantining SARS-affected areas to contain a disease threatening to erupt across the vast land.

The hospital, which has at least 60 confirmed or suspected cases among nurses and doctors, was the second in Beijing to be closed down due to the SARS outbreak. The People's Armed Police General Hospital shut down in early April after staff members fell ill.

The flu-like disease, for which there is no cure or vaccine, yesterday killed nine more people in China, Hong Kong and Singa-

BEIJING/A17



UNSPEAKABLE grief overcomes Orly Marcellana, husband of Eden Marcellana, Karapatan-Southern Tagalog secretary general, on seeing his wife's body at a funeral parlor in Oriental Mindoro.

JOAN BONDOC

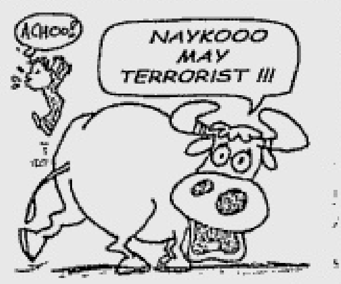
Abductors smashed face of rights leader

By Clarice Colting
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau
and TJ Burgonio
in Manila

BANSUD, Oriental Mindoro—A fact-finding mission led by two Bayan Muna congressmen found indications that slain human rights leader Eden Marcellana and peasant leader Eddie Gumanoy were tortured and probably summarily executed.

Representatives Satur Ocampo and Crispin Beltran were joined by members of human rights organizations Karapatan, Bayan and Anakpawis, lawyers from the Public Interest Law Center, ac-

ABDUCTORS/A18


ACHOO!
NAYKOOO MAY TERRORIST !!!

Intentional sneezing act of terror

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

IN THE TIME of SARS, a sneeze just might earn you the tag of terrorist.

Speaking Wednesday night at the House plenary deliberations on the anti-terrorism bill, Makati Rep.

INTENTIONAL/A7

Metro, Sports, Entertainment reinvented

LIKE an atypical marriage, the INQUIRER is always thinking of the many ways to refresh its relationship with its first love—its readers. And today, April 25, the INQUIRER is presenting one way to show that it looks after the needs of its readers. It has to do with repackaging the Metro, Sports and Entertainment sections. It has to do with organizing news and information to create more space for more stories which are more accessible to the readers.

SPORTS

The INQUIRER content remains as is—the result of a struggle every single day to reinvent the paper into an exciting cover-to-cover read.

METRO

Check out the Metro section today. It returns to its rightful prominence—in the back page of Section A where it used to be when the INQUIRER started its Metro section in 1991.

The revitalized Sports and Entertainment sections are wedded together back to back in a pullout section on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The union of sports and entertainment news is the INQUIRER's way of saluting and celebrating the Filipino as No. 1 fan in this sports-n'-showbiz-crazed land of the sun returning. Which partly explains the Filipino's unsinkable resilience though marooned in a sea of troubles.

ENTERTAINMENT

On Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the Sports section stands separately on its own. So does the Entertainment section. On Saturdays, Entertainment goes to Saturday Special offering weekenders a total diversion from the dailiness (and headlines) of everyday living.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2003

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The whole country will experience partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.
SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/04/25/03

Maynilad accused of overcharging, too

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

TAKE Maynilad, too.

Following a major victory in the case of the P28-billion refund against the Manila Electric Co., consumer groups are now demanding that the government take over another Lopez-run utility, the Maynilad Water Co.

Ana Marie Nemenzo, president of the Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC), said the water firm continues to collect from consumers up to P240 million monthly in overcharges, since Maynilad continues to operate in Metro Manila's west zone.

There are an estimated six million Maynilad subscribers in the area, which covers Manila, Pasay, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa; parts of Taguig; Bacoor, Kawit, Imus, Noveleta, Rosario and Cavite City in Cavite; Malabon, Valenzuela and Navotas.

Maynilad terminated its 25-year service contract with the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System last December after only five years, accusing the agency of seriously impairing its viability. The MWSS contested the charge, and arbitration by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is ongoing.

Nemenzo said Maynilad was "deliberately delaying the arbitration process because it collects P240 million for every month that it is allowed to operate." The arbitration period is 150 days from the serving of the termination notice.

The overcharges come from the Foreign Currency Differential Adjustment (FCDA) and Accelerated Extraordinary Price Adjustment (AEPA) that Maynilad includes in its billings, she said.

With the AEPA, water concessionaires have been trying to recoup foreign exchange losses amounting to P2.632 billion through Maynilad Water and P325.9 million through Manila Water; and with the FCDA, Maynilad has been collecting from consumers its own forex losses amounting to P1.345 billion.

Bubut Palattao, FDC campaigner for water, said Maynilad has collected a total of P2.6 billion under the AEPA since January this year and the FCDA since 2001.

FDC and Sanlakas members picketed the Maynilad building at the MWSS compound in Quezon City yesterday, lugging empty pails to dramatize the company's alleged failure to deliver efficient service.

The protest action was held simultaneously with a hearing at the Quezon City Regional Trial Court on Maynilad's petition for injunction seeking to prevent banks from releasing the $60 million performance bond it had posted upon winning the prime concession in 1997.

As the government's regulatory body, MWSS intended to withdraw from the bond after Maynilad failed to pay P5 billion in concession fees. An ICC appeals panel earlier granted a temporary restraining order in favor of Maynilad.

Along with Sanlakas president and FDC vice president Wilson Fortaleza, Nemenzo met with MWSS administrator Orlando Hondrade yesterday and presented the proposal for an immediate government takeover.

A ranking Maynilad official said the concession agreement prohibited the MWSS from drawing from the performance bond "while there is an unresolved dispute." For the same reason, he said, a government takeover could not be considered at this point.

About 59 percent of Maynilad is owned by Benpres Holdings Corp., the debt-laden holding company of the Lopez family, and about 40 percent is owned by Ondeo, a French multinational group affiliated with Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux.

Consumer say in power issues urged

By R. W. Domingo

A CONSUMER group yesterday urged Malacañang to create a "consumer power commission" to give end-users a say in electricity issues, such as Manila Electric Co.'s multibillion-peso refund.

Pete Ilagan, president of the National Association of Electricity Consumers for Reforms (Nasecore), proposed the creation of the commission through an executive order.

In an interview, Ilagan said the new agency could assist the Energy Regulatory Commission in overseeing the implementation of the Meralco refund.

"Consumer and civil society groups perceive the ERC as being biased toward Meralco," he said. "We came up with this idea to protect the integrity of the ERC."

Ilagan said the consumer commission could be given a non-extendable six-month period to come up with a formula for the refund.

"This would give all government agencies concerned as well as consumer groups enough time to reach a consensus, considering that they all have different ideas on how to implement the refund," Ilagan said.

Various consumer groups have demanded the refund be given in a lump-sum payment, via deductions in the monthly bills or through the issuance of Meralco shares to the electricity end-users.

In a letter to President Macapagal-Arroyo, Ilagan said the power commission could also review Meralco's mega-franchise, the purchased power adjustment (PPA) issue, the independent power producers' contracts with Meralco and the National Power Corp., as well as create consumer cooperatives that would engage in power generation and distribution.

The Senate had passed in March a bill consolidating Meralco's 50 separate franchises, 17 of which had expired.

WARNING TO THE PUBLIC

The public is hereby warned that in an investigation conducted by the Anti-Organized Crime and Businessmen's Concern Division, Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, Philippine National Police, certain unscrupulous persons, using LARRY LIM and JOSE TAN, were found to have committed criminal acts of entering into illegitimate transactions using altered letterhead of Metchem Industrial Inc. bearing address at Metchem Bldg., 1120 Apacible St., Paco Manila and phone no. 413-1842 and fax no. 374-0488 and issued unfunded checks allegedly drawn from the account of Metchem Industrial Inc. with Allied Bank Del Monte Ave., Q.C. and Metrobank Paco Branch Singalong, Manila.

Further investigation is on-going involving other JOHN DOEs.

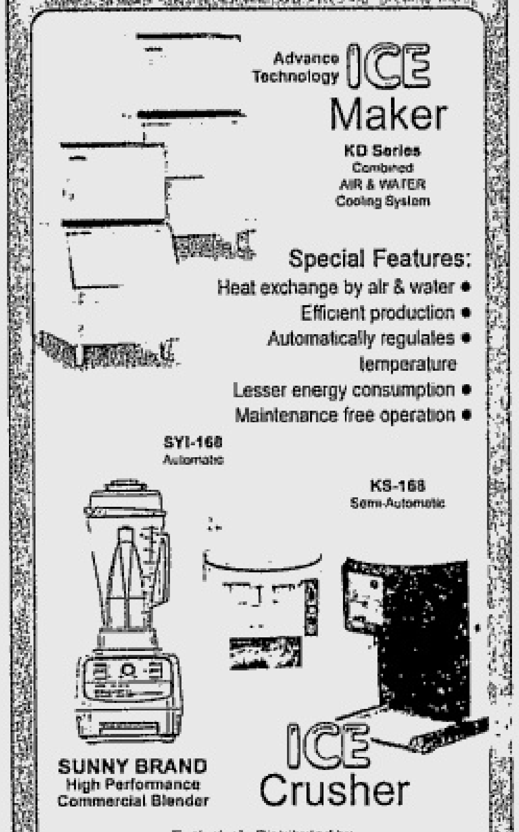
Meantime, FOR MUTUAL PROTECTION, THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHECK THE LEGITIMACY OF BOTH THE DOCUMENT AND THE TRANSACTION DIRECTLY WITH MR. ERNESTO SAN AGUSTIN II OF METCHEM INDUSTRIAL INC.

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY WARNED THAT THE COMPANY SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY UNAUTHORIZED TRANSACTIONS AND VOWS TO PURSUE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS AGAINST THE IMPOSTORS, MANIPULATORS AND UNSCRUPULOUS PERSON/S AND GROUP/S.

METCHEM INDUSTRIAL INC
Metchem Bldg.
1120 Apacible St., Paco, Manila
Tel. No. : 525-3001
Fax No : 523-6390
E mail address : mi@metchem.com.ph

SP SPEECHPOWER
SUMMER 2003 CLASSES
Friday-Saturday classes begin today
- ENGLISH CONVERSATION FLUENCY
- INTENSIVE PRONUNCIATION COURSE
- ENGLISH CONVERSATION PRACTICE
- ENGLISH FOR FOREIGNERS
- INTENSIVE GRAMMAR REVIEW
- BUSINESS WRITING PROFICIENCY
- ORAL PRESENTATION SKILLS
- VOCABULARY ENRICHMENT COURSE
- SPEED READING & COMPREHENSION
- CHOICES of CORPORATE COMMUNICATION COURSES

SP SPEECHPOWER
Your best choice
SP-Cubao
Speechpower-Joshua Bldg.
932 Aurora Boulevard
Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 9110832-34
SP-Taft
2nd Flr., Tecnogas Bldg.
1810-1812 Taft Ave., cor
Nakpil St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos. 5236905, 5255310
5213601
SP-España
4th Flr., Doña Amparo Bldg.
España cor. Tolentino Sts.
Sampaloc, Manila
Tel. Nos. 7357256 7357312
7357262
SP-Biñan
Alpha Angelicum Academy
Golden Meadow Subdivision
San Antonio, Biñan, Laguna
Tel. Nos. 0919-5138121
049-5113450
www.speechpower.com.ph



KATSUNO
ICE MAKER & ICE CRUSHER
Advance Technology ICE Maker
KD Series
Combined AIR & WATER Cooling System
Special Features:
Heat exchange by air & water •
Efficient production •
Automatically regulates temperature •
Lesser energy consumption •
Maintenance free operation •
SYI-168 Automatic
KS-168 Semi-Automatic
SUNNY BRAND
High Performance Commercial Blender
ICE Crusher
Exclusively Distributed by
merit Stainless Steel, Inc.
Piscor Compd. E. Amang Rodriquez Jr. Ave., Manggahan, Pasig City
Tel. nos.: 640-3270 • 6403278
CEBU: Roost / 346-8221 to 23 • 346-7107
DAVAO: Truscon / 222-1095 • 227-9804

OPENING SOON! GOLDEN TOWN SQUARE SHOPPING OUTLET, PARAÑAQUE
INVITING RETAILERS/WHOLESALERS FOR EXPANSION OR START-UPS BOUTIQUES, BILLIARDS, GAMING, SHOWROOM, FURNITURES, GROCERY, BAKERY, RESTAURANT/BAR, PARLOR
CALL 5414358, 5414399 FOR INQUIRIES
HURRY! START YOUR BUSINESS NOW!

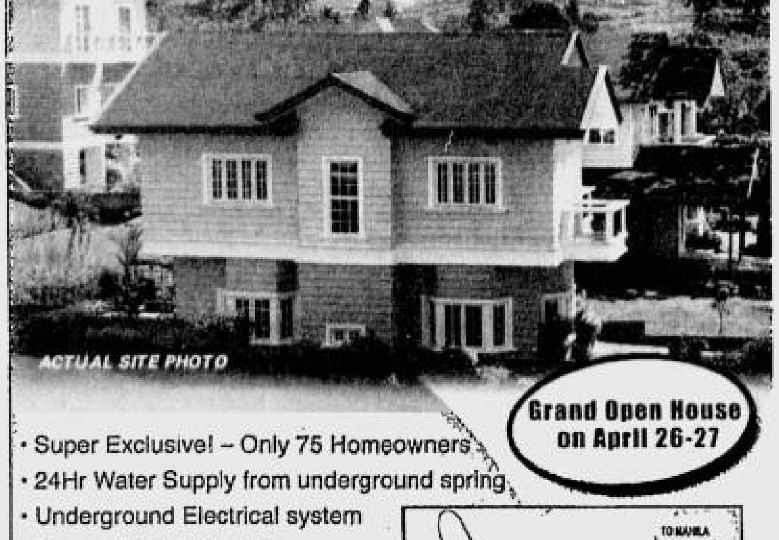
OFFICE CLUB.com THE NEW WAY TO OFFICE www.officeclub.com.ph
COMPLETE SCHOOL / OFFICE SUPPLIES, OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT
ELECTRONIC CHECKWRITER P 6,150.00
SANYO FAX MACHINE P 5,695.00
EXECUTIVE COLLECTION MD-1600-3 Desk only P 8,500.00
MANUAL COMBINATION P 2,145.00
LATERAL FILE CABINET from P 6,650.00 up
FAX PAPER from P 53.00 up
SP 2 PUNCHER P 70.00
DETECTOR P 450.00
FOLDING CHAIR P 295.00
CHAIRMAN P 7,600.00
LECTURE TABLE P 3,250.00
EPSON RIBBON P 100.00 up
COMPUTER FORM from P 295.00 up
PAPER SHREDDER P 1,975.00
MANILA
MAKATI
814 A.Arnaiz Ave. Makati City
Fax No. 752 8376
E-Mail Add: cc_makati@yahoo.com
SAN JUAN
55 Annapolis St. Greenhills San Juan Metro Manila
Tel. No. 724-7262 / 724 7985

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION
Introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER
RECONDITIONED
AMAZING 4-IN-1
COPIER • FAX • PRINTER • SCANNER
BRAND NEW
RICOH FT 3113 for only P15,000
Canon MPC 400 P30,500
Canon MPC 600 F P40,000
LAMINATOR P3,800
THERMAL BINDER P8,500
RING BINDER P8,000
Other copiers also available: FT 3320, FT 3013, FT 3313 FT 4415, FT 4418, FT 4220
SALES: 899-7101 up to 04 / 899-7045 • 899-7075 to 76 • 899-7023
MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near cor. Makati Ave., Makati City • Fax: 895-7802
CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sansiangko St., Cebu City ☎ 255-0504 • 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: McArthur Hi-way, Dolores San. Fdo., ☎ 963-5055 to 56 • Fax: 963-5059 • Digitel: 860-0383

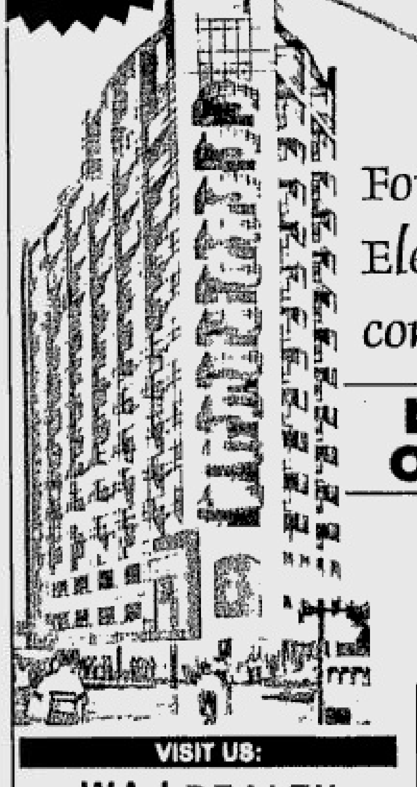
PERSONALIZED (NAME OR LOGOS)
UMBRELLAS ETCETERA
CORPORATE/SCHOOL EVENTS, ANNIVERSARIES, REUNIONS...
RAIN OR SHINE
BEST MILEAGE TO PROMOTING UR PRODUCT
P110/pc@100pcs minimum
ACCEPT ORDERS OUTSIDE METRO
SYSTECO
Tel., 821-4102
CEL 0917-6454910

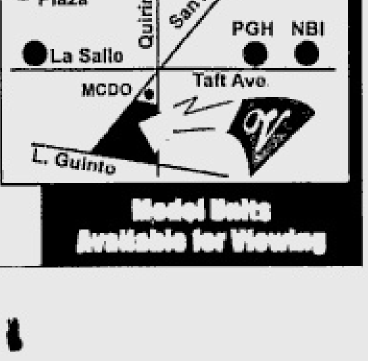
100% Brand New & Recon COPIERS
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
* Big Summer Sale!
P14,999 ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320 For Personal / Office Use
BRAND NEW! POWDER TYPE RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS P49,900 ONLY
LIQUID TYPE Savin 760 FOR BUSINESS Lowest Cost Copy
P30,500 ONLY BRAND NEW! FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER
P18,000 ONLY
PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS!
* GOOD TILL MAY 31, 2003
COPYTRADE
Copytrade Bldg. 550 M.F. Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ.)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
• Lease To Own/ Rental Call: 736-0031
• Ringbinders / Cutters Gestetner / Blueprint Machines, Riso, Etc.

CURE BAD BREATH NOW!
Now it's here... America's revolutionary health products, THERABREATH system ™.
The amazing discovery for effective treatment of chronic bad breath, bitter/sour tastes, phlegm in throat, pasty saliva, post nasal drip, awful morning breath.
Bad breath is caused by sulfur producing bacteria on your tongue and throat, not in stomach or sinus. That's why mouthwashes and capsules don't really work.
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
Call for free delivery within Metro Manila
Tel: 890-8380, 895-5532; 897-2466, 895-6775, 0917-7965899

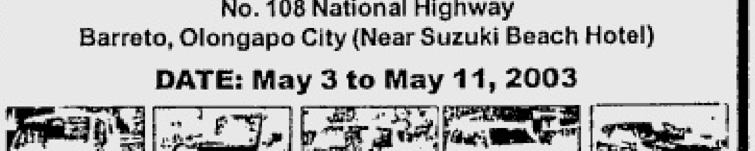


Tagaytay VILLA MENDEZ
ACTUAL SITE PHOTO
Grand Open House on April 26-27
• Super Exclusive! – Only 75 Homeowners
• 24Hr Water Supply from underground spring
• Underground Electrical system
• House & Lot units with PVC Casement Windows & Landscaped Gardens
• Floor Areas range from 105 sqm to 235 sqm
• Limited lots left, over 65% Sold!
For inquiries, please call: 255-0151
Text (0917-5214101)
Or visit our website www.villamendez.com.ph





FEW UNITS LEFT
VELLAGIO TOWER
For Elegance and comfort living
READY FOR OCCUPANCY
NO RESERVATION FEE DOWNPAYMENT
For as low as P1.4 M
VISIT US:
WAJ REALTY DEV'T, INC.
Tel: 400-8407
525-1787
HLURB License to Sell #04889
Model Units Available for Viewing



COME & JOIN THE ONE WEEK MEGA NEGO SALE 2003
(SUV'S, VAN'S & ELF'S)
at KANDA MOTORS
No. 108 National Highway
Barreto, Olongapo City (Near Suzuki Beach Hotel)
DATE: May 3 to May 11, 2003
- GUARANTEED A-1 CONDITION & ALL IMPORTED FROM JAPAN, FULLY LOADED
- ALL TAXES PAID
- ALL REGISTERED AT LTO
- ALL UNITS ARE JAPANESE SUPERVISED IN CONVERSION
- NO HEADACHE ONCE YOU BUY FROM US
- YOU CAN ROAD TEST ALL UNITS BEFORE YOU PAY
TEL. NO. (047) 224-6841
0919-5059525 / 0918-9057854

Gloria unveils 10-point plan for Mindanao's recovery

By Carlito Pablo

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday unveiled a 10-point program for the rehabilitation of war-ravaged areas in Mindanao dubbed the "Mindanao National Initiative" or Mindanao Natin.

In a speech before the 1st Muslim Summit held at the Midtown Hotel in Manila, the President said she is allotting P5.5 billion for the implementation of the program in the next 14 months.

Ms Macapagal said this was in addition to the Official Development Assistance (ODA) financing amounting to $1.3 billion that the government will pour into the region.

Mindanao Natin will be implemented in over 5,000 barangays of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Regions IX and XII, Lanao del Norte and Damulog in Bukidnon.

The President said that unless the country came up with a solution to what is known as the "Mindanao problem," it would not realize its full potential as a nation.

"United as a people under one flag, we shall prevail and fulfill the promise of Mindanao, and thereby our full promise as a nation and as a strong republic," Ms Macapagal said.

The President said the 10-point initiative includes the following components:

- Substantial implementation of the 1976 Tripoli Agreement that called for, among other things, greater participation of Muslims in government.
- Rehabilitation of the so-called Pikit-Pagalungan-Pagagawan cluster and the Carmen-President Roxas-Damulog cluster, which were affected by recent fighting between government forces and Muslim rebels.
- Formation of the "Sala'am Soldiers," half of whom are to be Muslims, whose task would be to protect Muslim communities.
- Financing and provision of skills for livelihood opportunities in agriculture, trade, industry and services.

GMA raps critical lawmakers

"STOP the grandstanding."

President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday lashed out at lawmakers critical of her decision to send a 500-member humanitarian and peacekeeping team to Iraq.

President Macapagal, who threw her support behind the United States-led invasion of the oil-rich Middle Eastern country, said the dispatch of such a mission was an "issue of vital importance to our foreign relations."

In a statement, the President welcomed "any support or constructive involvement" in Congress for the peacekeeping project. "Our goals will be best served by a collaborative effort," she said.

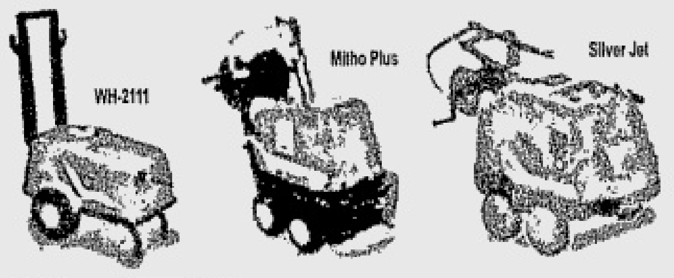
Several senators and congressmen earlier censured Malacañang's move, which would cost the government P600 million. To start with, they said, the mission had no authority or funding approval from Congress.

Other lawmakers argued that the project did not serve the national interest, and that the money would be put to better use in war-ravaged areas in Mindanao. *Carlito Pablo and Juliet Labog-Javellana*

CGFNS NCLEX USMLE NBDE TOEFL TOEIC LSAT GMAT GRE SAT TSE
ICSEC INTL. CULTURAL STUDIES AND EDUCATION CORPORATION a member of LKG Group (Licensee of KAPLAN, USA)
KAPLAN www.kaplan.com
WORLD LEADER IN TEST PREP.
SCHEDULE OF FREE SEMINARS
GMAT & GRE APR 11 7PM MKT
CGFNS, TOEFL, TSE, NCLEX APR 11 6PM MLA
CGFNS, TOEFL, TSE, NCLEX APR 22 6PM QC
USMLE STEPS 1 TO 3 APR 23 6PM CEBU
USMLE STEPS 1 TO 3 APR 23 6PM QC
QC CTR - 1132 Quezon Ave., Z Bldg. Tel: 371-8966 & 68 • 372-1689
MAKATI - 6797 Ayala Ave. Cor Rufino Tel: 813-8222 & 82 • 892-3443 • 817-7725
MANILA - 929 N. Reyes St. (Morayta) Tel: 735-7713 to 16 • Fax: 737-7717
CEBU - 16F. Winland, J.Osmeña Ext. Tel: (032) 254-1388 • TF: 412-9977
ICSEC COURSE OFFERINGS:
APR. 2003 : UPCAT • ACET • IELTS • ESL • LET
AUG. 2003 : LOCAL LIC. EXAM FOR DOCTORS • MEDTECH • DENTISTS • NURSES • MARINE • CPA • NMAT
FREE JOB PLACEMENT & COUNSELLING • FREE CENTER PASS • FREE WEEKLY SEMINARS

PC BODEGA •New Manila (infront of Broadway) 721-9445 / 721-4489 •Virramall Shopping Center 724-6793 / 724-3007
PC DEPOT •SM North EDSA Cyber Zone 925-4565 / 925-4562 •Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall 682-8618 / 682-8619 •Virramall Shopping Center 725-8519 / 725-8792
Guaranteed Best Price & All Brand New Components !!!
PCB SKIVATRUKI ▶ Pentium 4 1.7 Ghz
Amax Board (Hyper Thread Ready) 256MB DDR RAM, 64MB GeForce w/TV-out 40GB HDD (72rpm), 1.44MB FDD LG 52x24x52x CDWriter, ATX Case 17" Color Monitor, 56K Modem HP 3325 DeskJet Printer, 550W AVR Subwoofer Speaker FREE: Microsoft Mouse INTERNET READY P30,500
PCB INTIMIDATOR ▶ Pentium 4 1.6 Ghz (512K)
Jetway S447 Board, 128MB DDR RAM Integrated Video & w/ Audio 40GB HDD, 60x CDRom, 1.44MB FDD 15" Monitor, ATX Case, 56KModem 550W AVR, 180W SpKer INTERNET READY P20,500
PCB HOMEOFFICE ▶ Celeron 1.7 Ghz
Jetway S447 Board, 128MB DDR RAM Riva TNT2 32MB Video & Audio 40GB HDD, 60x CDRom, 1.44MB FDD 15" Monitor, ATX Case, 56KModem 550W AVR, 180W SpKer INTERNET READY P17,700
More PC Packages are available.
LCD MONITOR Conquest 14.1" 12,500 Hyundai 15" 19,500
SEAGATE 20GB 5400rpm - 3,000 40GB 5400rpm - 3,400 40GB 7200rpm - 3,750 80GB 5400rpm - 5,450
WWW.PCBODEGA.COM/ WWW.PCBODEGA.COM.PH

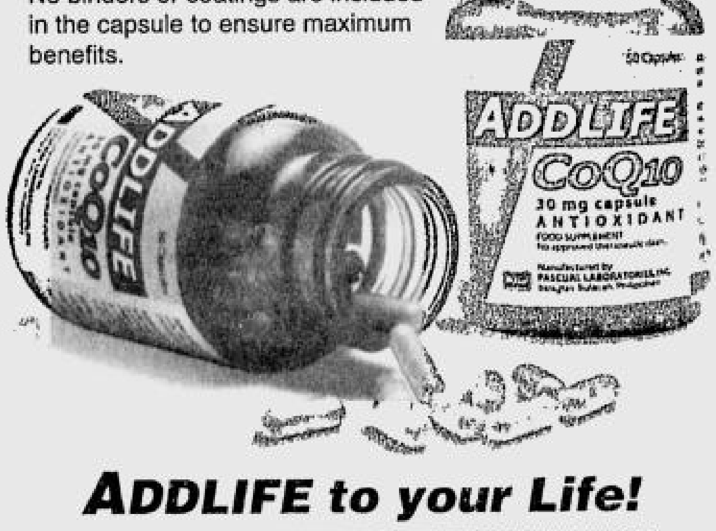
INDUSTRIAL FACTORIES • JANITORIAL SERVICES • POULTRIES • SHIPYARDS • TAXI FLEETS
We Offer The World's Most Trusted High Pressure Washers & Vacuum Cleaners!



FROM THE NO. 1 IN HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS
Major Credit Cards Accepted. Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Exclusively Distributed By CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
MAIN OFFICE:1851 M.Orosa St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCHES: 646 Quezon Ave. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709
162 Del Monte Ave. Nr. Cor. Roosevelt Ave. Tel. 4101086 • 3724429
HOTELS • GAS STATIONS • RESTAURANT • SHIPYARDS • POULTRIES • JANITORIAL SERVICES • SHIPYARDS • CONFECTIONERIES • HOTELS
CAR WASHER • POULTRIES • SHIPYARDS • RESTAURANT • GAS STATIONS • HOTELS

CoQ10:
ENERGY TO YOUR HEART
- CoQ10 is a natural substance in the body
- Serves as a power plant that gives energy to the heart
- Anti-oxidant that hunts down and eliminates harmful free radicals
- Helps prevent clogging of arteries

ADDLIFE supplies your daily requirement of 30 mg. PURE CoQ10. No binders or coatings are included in the capsule to ensure maximum benefits.

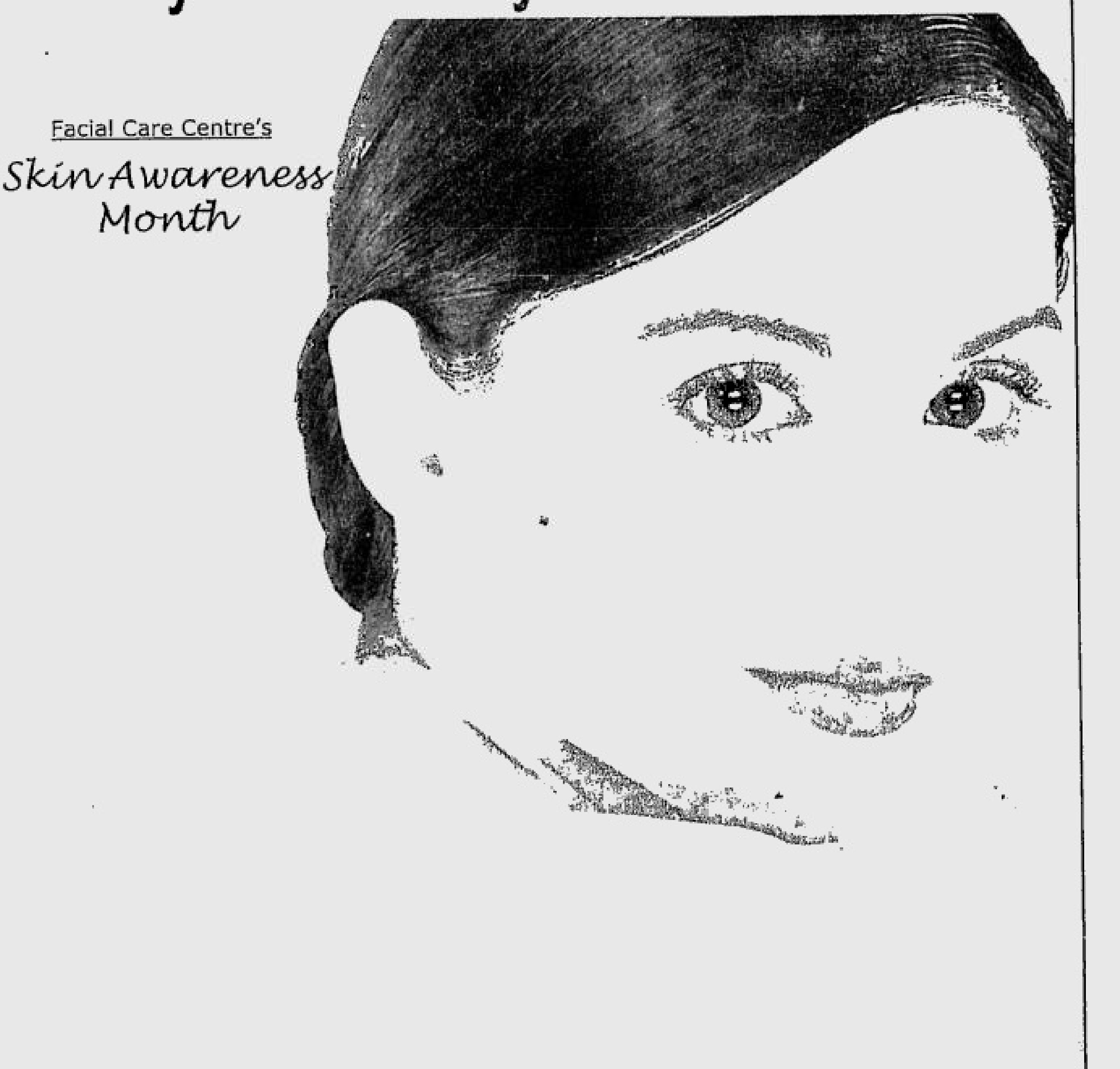


ADDLIFE to your Life!
ADDLIFE CoQ10
Pascual Laboratories, Inc. 817 EDSA, So. Triangle Q.C.
Contact our ADDLIFE Hotline at 920-1911 to 15
E-mail us: addlifeCoQ10@mail.com
Available at mercury drug stores and other leading drugstores nationwide

Forty Winks
Everything that's good in beds.
NEW ARRIVAL!
IMPORTED DESIGNER SHEETINGS

THE WORLD'S NO. 1
Sealy POSTUREPEDIC MATTRESS
THE LARGEST SELLING MATTRESS IN THE U.S.!
SM NORTH EDSA 9276813
SM BACOOR (046)4171972
SM MEGAMALL 6356812-13
SM CEBU (32)2321632
SM SOUTHMALL 8001110-11
BESIDE GREENBELT PIONEER HOUSE Legazpi st. cor Paseo de Roxas 8105647
MAGALLANES San Gregorio cor. S.Highway 8541850-52
OPEN DAILY 10:00am to 9:00pm
WOMAN THE STORE Glorietta 3, Makati City 8100174
STA. LUCIA 6817498 6817484
EVER GOTESCO COMMONWEALTH 9320998-99 LOC 103
FIESTA WORLD MALL (043)9810790 0917-4186552
COUNTRY LIFESTYLE Santolan cor. Ortigas Ave 7240409
OPEN DAILY 9:00am to 8:00pm

Be informed. Be beautiful!
Virtually Erase Undereye Shadows & Puffiness
Facial Care Centre's Skin Awareness Month



Do you know...
What causes undereye shadows and puffiness and what you can do to eradicate them?
Our experts say...
Lack of sleep, fat deposits, improper diet and neglect can cause undereye shadows and puffiness. Rejuvenate the skin on your eye area with **Lymphatic Drainage Treatment**. It detoxifies facial tissues and revives a deep level of circulation in the lymph and energy systems. Thus, it is safe and effective in reducing eye area shadows and puffiness, lightening and smoothening the complexion.
Know your skin. Know how you can make it more beautiful!
Call Facial Care Centre NOW!
FREE TWO (2) LYMPHATIC DRAINAGE TREATMENTS UPON ENROLLMENT ON SELECTED TREATMENTS UNTIL APRIL 26, 2003 ONLY.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #1416, Series of 2003.
Facial care centre Where Beautiful Skin Happens
MAKATI 816-1259 815-3121 815-3123
ORTIGAS 687-2196 687-2197 631-3007 • 631-3045
QUEZON CITY 372-6633 372-6634 410-3709 • 410-3710
SHAW 534-7701/02 717-0076
ALABANG 842-1144 809-9583 850-4577
BINONDO 243-8138/39 243-8602 243-9895
CONGRESSIONAL 920-7938 920-7992 920-8064
PAMPANGA 961-3404/08 860-2663/64
CEBU 233-7631 233-7633/35
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM)

Balikatan '03 starts today

FILIPINO and American officials formally launch today the "Balikatan 2003" joint military exercise at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Involving 2,500 Filipino and 1,500 US troops, the exercise is different from the Balikatan 03-1 joint training scheduled for Mindanao that has been drawing criticism because it may allow American soldiers to engage Filipino insurgents like the Abu Sayyaf in combat.

The regular Balikatan 2003 is part of the series of joint military exercises between the two countries that will be conducted at Clark Air Base in Pampanga, the Marine base in Ternate, Cavite, and Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija.

Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes is guest of honor at today's rites, while Maj. Gen. Joseph Weber, commander of the 3rd US Marine Division, and AFP chief of staff Gen. Narciso Abaya will formally declare the exercise open.

Col. Ricardo Brillantes of the Philippine Army and Col. Lee Freund of the US Army are co-directors of the exercise.

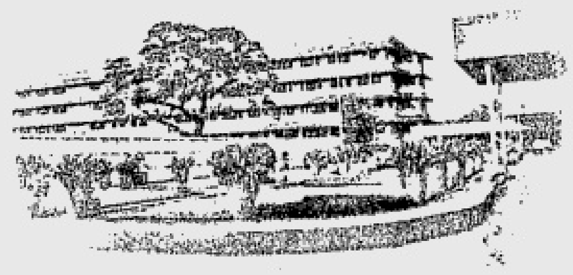
The US troops began arriving last week at Subic Bay, Zambales, bringing with them their "assets" like F-18 jet fighters, Chinook helicopters, C-130 transport planes and large guns.

To allay opposers' fears about the nature of the Balikatan exercises in Mindanao, Malacañang felt compelled yesterday to reiterate that no Americans would engage insurgents in combat in Sulu.

This after President Macapagal-Arroyo had pointed out on Wednesday that "any joint training exercise against terrorism is under threat anywhere in the world. Neither we nor the American troops have any illusions about absolute security."

In the wake of her statement, presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye repeated yesterday that "there will be no US forces on the ground for combat. Combat operations will be conducted by Philippine forces with the US providing support for intelligence, communication and mobility."

Martin P. Marfil and Dona Z. Pazzibugan


Now in its
28th year

THE
SEC. GUILLERMO DE VEGA
SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS FOR ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE

P6.4 MILLION WORTH
OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN ARCHITECTURE OR IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR ENGINEERING PROGRAMS AT THE TIP

WHO MAY APPLY

OPEN TO BONAFIDE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WITH 80% OR ABOVE GENERAL AVERAGE IN 4TH YEAR H.S. OR 80% OR ABOVE FINAL GRADE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS: MATH IV, SCIENCE IV, OR ENGLISH IV.

WHAT ARE THE GRANTS

1ST PLACER
GRANTEE GETS A TOTAL OUTLAY OF P188,000 FOR ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP
- P 50,000 TO COVER FIFTY(50) MONTHLY STIPENDS (P1000 PER MONTH) THROUGH FIVE (5) SCHOOL YEARS
- P 138,000 TO COVER TUITION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES THROUGHOUT THE COURSE IN ARCHITECTURE OR IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR ENGINEERING PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP.

2ND TO 41ST PLACERS
TOTAL OUTLAY OF P5.5 M FOR THE FORTY (40) SCHOLARS TO COVER TUITION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES THROUGHOUT THE COURSE IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP.

42ND TO 101ST PLACERS
TOTAL OUTLAY OF P708,000 FOR THE SIXTY (60) SCHOLARS TO COVER TUITION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES FOR ONE (1) SEMESTER IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP.

WHERE TO FILE APPLICATION
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR, TIP
363 P. CASAL ST., QUIAPO, MANILA
OR
938 AURORA BLVD., CUBAO, QUEZON CITY

APPLICANTS SHOULD BRING THEIR FORM 138 AND 2 COPIES OF 2X2 ID PICTURE

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION IS FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2003

WHEN TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION
SCHEDULE OF COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS IN MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH IS SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2003, 9:00 TO 11:00 AM AT TIP MANILA/QC

OTHER ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS AND DISCOUNTS

VALEDICTORIANS
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, ATHLETICS) FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS, PLUS A STIPEND OF P1,000 PER SEMESTER FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS.

SALUTATORIANS
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, ATHLETICS) FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS, PLUS A STIPEND OF P1,000 FOR ONE (1) SEMESTER.

3RD TO 10TH RANKING H.S. GRADUATES
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, ATHLETICS) FOR ONE (1) SEMESTER.

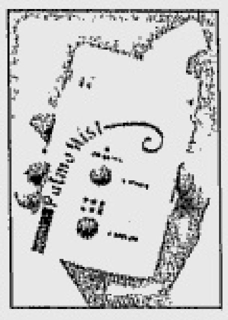
90% or above general average (4th Year H.S.) or 90% or above final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	Free tuition and basic miscellaneous fees (Registration, Library, Medical and Dental, Guidance and Counseling, Athletics) for one (1) semester
85% - 89% general average or 85% - 89% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	Free tuition fee for one (1) semester
83% - 84% general average or 83% - 84% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	80% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester
81% - 82% general average or 81% - 82% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	60% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester
80% general average or 80% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	50% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester

www.tip.edu.ph
ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
In constant redefinition of academic life

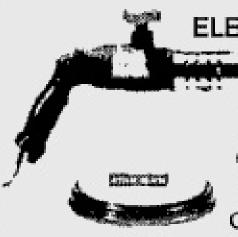
MANILA CAMPUSES
363 P. Casal St. Quiapo Manila
1338 Arlegui St. Quiapo Manila
QUEZON CITY CAMPUS
938 Aurora Blvd. Cubao Quezon City
TIP SEASIDE MARITIME TRAINING CENTER

1 years of Excellence in Engineering Education

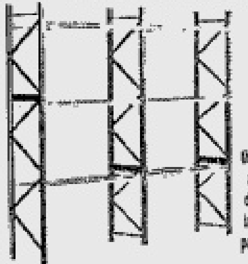

PulmoMist®
Handheld Ultrasonic Nebulizer
For Adults P 3,700 until supply lasts
- For Asthma, Bronchitis Emphysema and COPD
- Automatic shut-off every 10 mins. while in use. 3 yrs warranty
- The cheapest AC/DC battery operated nebulizer.

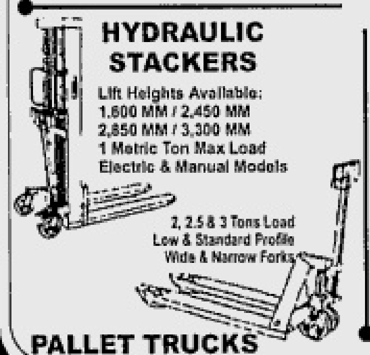
For home and car use.
Available in optional rechargeable battery pack.

medical center trading corp.
Pioneer St. cor. Shaw Blvd. Pasig City * Tels. 631-1715 * 631-9355 * 637-5504
Fax (632) 631-7869 * e-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph
Pasig 631-1715 loc. 212 * Manila 711-8374 * Cebu (032) 254-2367 * Davao (082) 222-4404
Iloilo (033) 320-1413 * Lipa (043) 757-2051 * Pampanga (045) 961-1892
Available: mercury drug Nationwide



DENGUE PROBLEM? MILLENNIUM
ELECTRIC FOGGING
Kills mosquitoes, cockroaches, flies, ants and all kinds of crawling insects.
Paramount Int'l Trading Mon. - Sat. (8:00 am to 5:00pm)
Suite 2602 La Granda Mansion 818 S. Padilla St. (formerly Gandara) near Ongpin St., Sta Cruz, Manila
Tel. Nos. 734-2503 to 04 or 733-77-67 / 73





Victor
SELECTIVE RACKS
Selective Rack designed with the up-to-date Engineering Technology. This system is the best for storing and retrieving of different products in the same bay of pallet stored space.

RAVENDO
Platform Trucks from DENMARK
- 500 Kg. Load Capacity
- Heavy Duty 8" Rubber Wheels
- Simple yet Sturdy Industrial Design

HYDRAULIC STACKERS
Lift Heights Available:
1,600 MM / 2,450 MM
2,850 MM / 3,300 MM
1 Metric Ton Max Load
Electric & Manual Models

2, 2.5 & 3 Tons Load
Low & Standard Profile
Wide & Narrow Forks
PALLET TRUCKS

Supermarket Shelves & Carts
MG 200Z
20, 60, 80-150 Liter
Customer Trolley
Bright Zinc plated
Clear Lacquered

VICTOR HARDWARE 687-689 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines
Tel.: (632) 743-6701 • Fax: 743-4587 & 732-0100
E-mail: victorhardware@i-manila.com.ph
HANDLING INNOVATION DOW JONES BUILDING, Warehouse #6-A, Km. 19
West Service Road, South Super Hi-way, Parañaque
Tel.: (632) 822-2321; 822-2324 to 27 • Fax: 822-3232

Get a FREE one-year extended warranty on a new APC UPS

"I've worked in the management of Hewlett Packard in the US and have known APC for their excellent services."
- Michael McDaniel, Stock Trader

BEYOND POWER PROTECTION

FREE 1-Year EXTENDED WARRANTY
Simply fi t the enclosed Warranty Entitleme Certificate and return to APC. APC standard on-site replacement warranty or 2 years. . now get 3!

Only one thing offers more uptime than an APC UPS... that's APC on-site warranty services.

When blackouts, surges and sags are the largest cause of PC and server problems like file corruption, frozen monitors and keyboard lockups, you need the best power protection available. To ensure complete system availability, you need an advanced UPS from a company that has the resources to service your unique power protection needs.

Now you can receive a FREE one-year extended warranty on a new APC Back-UPS®, Back-UPS Pro or Smart-UPS®. Simply send us your completely filled-out entitlement certificate found inside the APC product box and the standard 2-year on-site replacement warranty is automatically extended to three at no cost to you. For three whole years your new APC UPS will be supported by an on-site replacement warranty, which covers the UPS battery, spare parts and labour costs. Now there will be no need to travel to a service center for any repair or maintenance procedures – we'll come to you.*

Remember. Power protection systems are only as good as the service programs that ensure their continuous operation. Contact APC today and find out why over 12 million customers worldwide rely on our Legendary Reliability™.

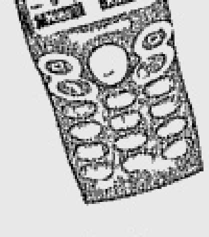
APC Legendary Reliability®

Name:
Job Title:
Company:
Address:
City/Town:
Postal Code:
Phone:
Fax:
E-mail:
How many PCs do you want to protect?
☐ Corporate End User ☐ SOHO ☐ Reseller

FREE APC Product Information
☐ YES! Please send me FREE APC product information.
☐ YES! I want to purchase an APC product with FREE 1-year extended warranty. Please have an APC representative contact me today.

Fax now at (+632) 637 5580 or call (+632) 637 5457
APC Philippines: Unit 2562, The Orient Square, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
©2003 American Power Conversion Corporation. All Trademarks are the property of their respective owners. APC1J3EF-PH
*Key Code: 40677a *Applicable for Back-UPS CS and Back-UPS MI models only.*

www.apc.com/ph


WIRELESS news

Panasonic
GD88 Tri-band
The Ultra Compact Digital Camera Phone
Digital Built-in Camera
65,536 colors TFT
Two-way digital camera
Take self-portrait using the viewfinder
Send & receive MMS
GPRS/ POP3 e-mail
Polyphonic Ringtones
Built-in Desktop Handsfree
200 Mobile Messages

Panasonic
GD55 Tri-band
Smallest and Lightest
Weight: 65g
Dimensions: 77 x 43 x 16mm
Send messages w/ sound & pictures
Blue LCD Display
Polyphonic Ringtones
Built-in Desktop Handsfree
WAP 1.2.1

Visit Panasonic Exhibit Booth
3rd Flr Bridgeway SM Megamall (April 24 to 30, 2003)

Also available at the following WIRELESS branches:

SM Megamall 5Th Level Bldg. A Tel.# 635-9471/75
SM Centerpoint 3rd Level Tel.# 714-1936/42
Shangri-La Plaza Tel.# 635-9472/687-2527
Topwin Telecoms Sapphire Lane Virra Mall Greenhills SJ.
168 Telecoms Emerald Lane Virra Mall Greenhills SJ.
Hello Telecoms 3rd Floor Robinsons Galleria

Expect austere Labor Day, workers told

By Blanche S. Rivera

WORKERS will have to find other ways to celebrate Labor Day this year, as government has scrapped the traditional announcement of incentives.

Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas said preparations for the May 1 event were being firmed up, but that these did not include the usual wage adjustment package.

"There is a limit to what government can do," Sto. Tomas told reporters. "These are difficult times. We have to be imaginative, creative."

How to mark the day with the given budget and resources? Let us count the ways:

Sto. Tomas said the Department of Labor and Employment was working out free concerts at the Rizal Park in Manila, as well as free Metro Rail Transit rides for several hours. The Philippine Basketball Association will give away free bleacher seats for PBA games.

Neither could government make private companies dish out benefits in keeping with the spirit of the occasion, the Labor chief said.

Labor groups themselves had not filed any wage hike petitions since the fourth quarter of last year, she said, "because they know of the hard times."

Sto. Tomas recalled that the practice of announcing government workers' benefits on Labor Day started during the martial law years because, unlike today, there was no legislative venue that determined salary adjustments and incentives at the time.

Protest marches are still expected though, even as workers admitted that the country is suffering an economic crunch.

Special Announcement!
Please be advised that on
APRIL 27, 2003
(Sunday)
8 Waves Waterpark
Is reserved
EXCLUSIVELY by a company
SOON TO OPEN: 8 WAVES WATERPARK HOTEL
FOR INQUIRIES: CALL TEL #s: 044 766 5272
044 766 5268
OR VISIT: www.8waveswaterpark.com.ph
Thank you for your most needed cooperation and understanding.

OPEN HOUSE
Tagaytay Hot Summer Treats
Date:
May 03,2003
Time:
9 A.M. - 4 P.M.
Join us & have fun!
Discounts & surprises
await you...
See you there!
TAGAYTAY
EXECUTIVE VILLAGE
• 1 min. drive from Rotunda
• Back of McDonald & Olivarez Plaza
Own a lot for as low as P10,120/mo.
No downpayment scheme also available
CITYLAND 812-2222•243-6565•818-8888•241-1894•(0919) 310-8553
www.cityland.net investment@cityland.net

AMBASSADOR Benjamin J. Y. Lo, right, hands over the "ampao" (lucky money) to the parents of conjoined twins Rachel Frances and Lea Grace Lawel, while Alfred Lee, second from right, looks on.

Siamese twins to begin separate lives in Taiwan

NINE-MONTH-OLD Siamese twins Rachel Frances and Lea Grace Lawel will be getting their much-needed surgery in Taiwan, after the local chapter of a Buddhist charitable organization offered its assistance.

The children of a poor farming couple from Kalinga province—Andy and Marietta Lawel—the girls are joined in the abdomen but have separate sets of organs making surgery a viable option.

Their story published in the INQUIRER resulted in their getting treatment at the Philippine Children's Hospital in Quezon City. It also caught the attention of Alfredo Lee of the Tzu Chi Foundation, Philippine branch, who made arrangements with the Tzu Chi Buddhist General Hospital in Hualien, Taiwan for the twins' operation.

Before leaving for Taiwan, the twins and their parents paid a call on Ambassador Benjamin J. Y. Lo of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Manila.

Saying six was a lucky number to the Chinese, Ambassador Lo gave the Lawels pocket money amounting to "six times six," since there were two babies.

The ambassador took the occasion to assure the family it is safe to travel to Taiwan despite isolated SARS cases there that the government is working to contain.

Saying Taiwan has had to go it alone in its battle against SARS due to its non-recognition by the United Nations, Lo said it was imperative Taiwan be allowed to at least join the World Health Organization because there was much the island nation could share with other countries.

Taiwan sponsored an international symposium on the control of SARS in Taipei on April 20-21 and two leading experts from the Philippines participated, he said.

DPWH exec axed for immorality

A REGIONAL director of the Department of Public Works and Highways has been ordered dismissed by the Supreme Court for "immoral and disgraceful acts."

Reversing a Court of Appeals ruling, the SC also ordered that DPWH Director for Region IV Nestor Agustin forfeit his retirement benefits and be barred from employment in the government.

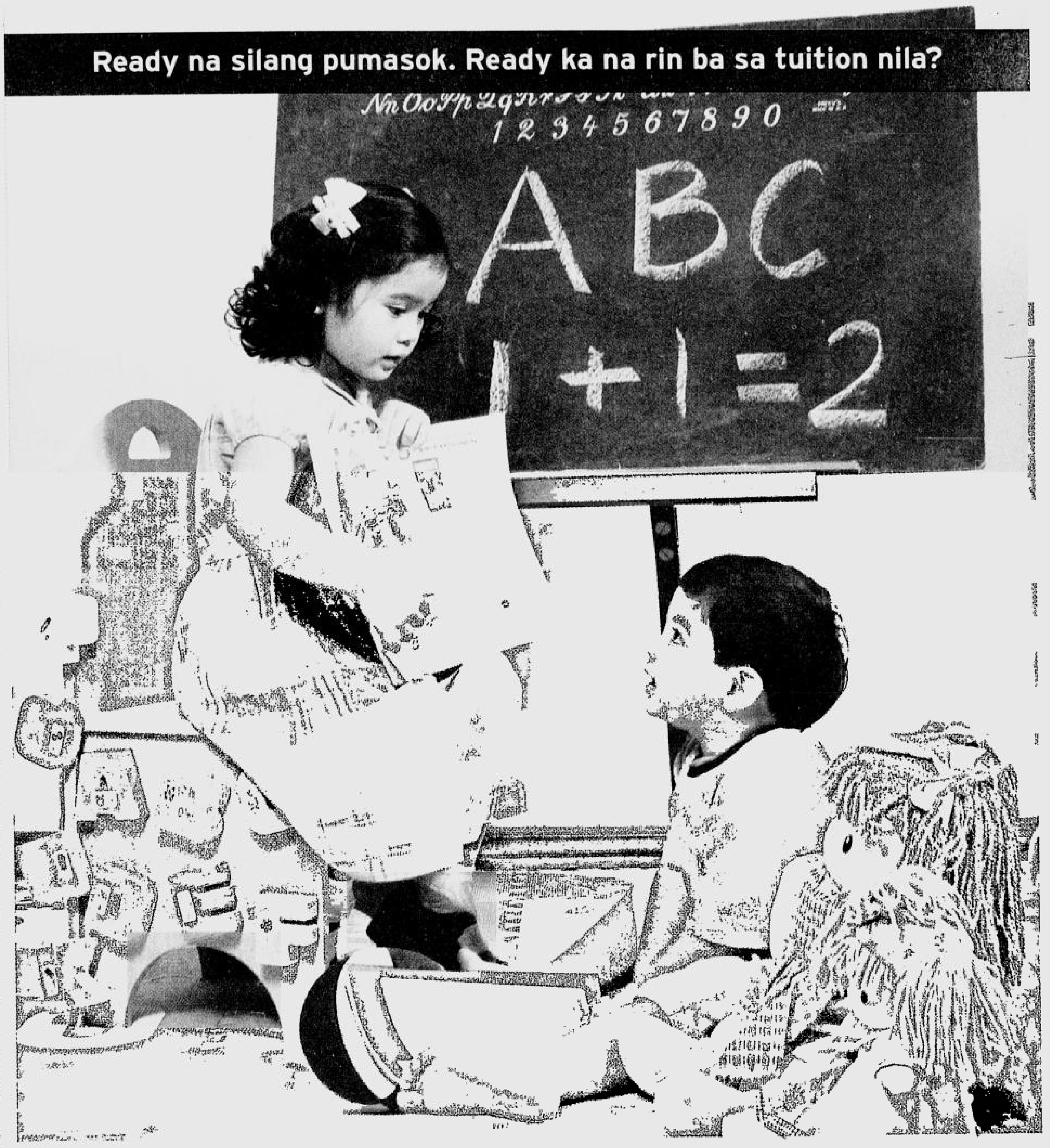
Agustin was found guilty of grave misconduct, disgraceful and immoral acts, and oppression for having an illicit relationship with a contractor to whom he awarded various government projects.

Teresita Fabian, president of Promat Construction, had filed the case against Agustin for harassing her at her home and at a restaurant after she ended their relationship.

Agustin, however, is still with the DPWH and was in a meeting with Secretary Bayani Fernando when the INQUIRER called to ask him for comment yesterday.

Agustin told this paper the SC ruling, dated Feb. 14, 2003, was not yet final and executory.

He said his lawyer filed a motion for reconsideration on March 14 and he would continue to work at the DPWH pending the decision on his appeal. *Blanche S. Rivera*


Ready na silang pumasok. Ready ka na rin ba sa tuition nila?
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
ABC
1+1=2

Citibank Installment Loan
Money when you need it.
- No collateral needed
- Loanable amount starts at P15,000*
- Pay in 12 to 36 easy monthly installments
- Monthly payments of as low as P717**
Call for your loan today at 423-3333.
For more information, see flyers or visit www.citibank.com.ph
* Subject to income document requirements
** Computation based on loan amount of P15,000 over 36 months
0% Promo ends on May 31, 2003.
Initially available in Metro Manila, Cavite, Laguna, Bulacan and Rizal provinces.
0% INTEREST
on your loan payments for the first 3 months.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0241, Series of 2003.
citibank
A member of citigroup

High court rules ₱18-B BF suit can continue

THE SUPREME Court has ruled with finality that Banco Filipino Savings and Mortgage Bank is not legally barred from recovering some P18.8 billion in damages against former officials of the defunct Central Bank of the Philippines.

In a one-page resolution, the high tribunal's Second Division junked the motion for reconsideration filed by the CB's Monetary Board, saying there was "no compelling reason... to warrant the reconsideration sought."

The minute resolution was dated March 5, but released only yesterday by Assistant Division Clerk of Court Ludichi Yasay-Nunag.

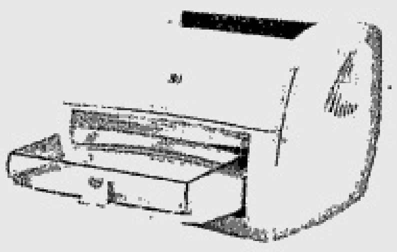
The CB had filed the motion seeking reconsideration of the Sept. 4, 2002 high court ruling that was favorable to the bank.

In junking the monetary board's motion, the SC removed all legal impediments to the bank's eight-year battle to prosecute former ranking officials of the CB, precursor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

The former officials led by then CB Governor Jose "Jobo" Fernandez had been blamed for the sudden closure of Banco Filipino in 1985. The bank reopened in 1994.

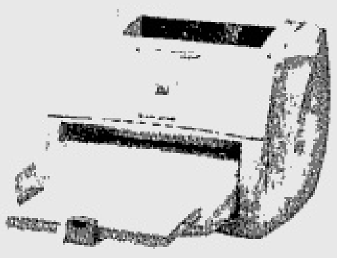
With the final decision, the Makati Regional Trial Court can proceed with the civil case for damages BF had filed against Fernandez and his heirs. *Michael Lim Ubac*

HP LaserJets are bundled with free soft wear.



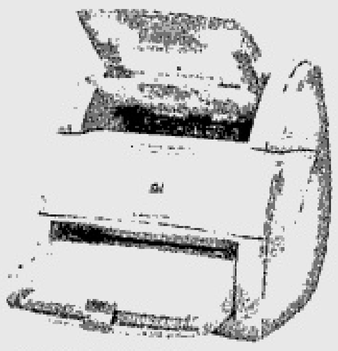
hp LaserJet 1000
- 10 ppm
- 600 dpi (1200 dpi class with REt)
- 1MB memory
- 250 sheet input tray
- USB only

PhP 14,999



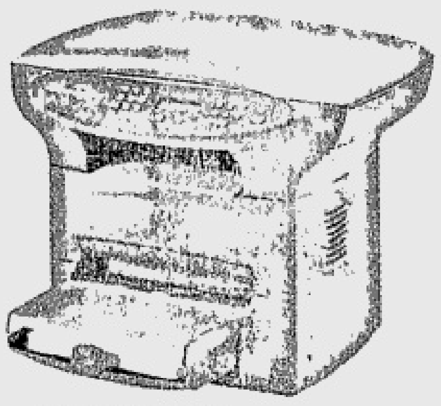
hp LaserJet 1200
- 14 ppm
- 1200x1200 dpi
- 250 sheet input tray
- 8MB upgradeable to 72MB
- USB and Parallel

PhP 21,199



hp LaserJet 1220
hp LaserJet 1200 base unit plus:
- copier/scanner attachment
- up to 12 copies per minute
- scanner resolution 600ppi optical and 9600ppi enhanced

PhP 25,699



hp LaserJet 3300mfp
- 15 ppm printing and flatbed copying
- printing. 1200x1200 dpi
- scan and copy: 600x600 dpi
- reduction or enlargement of copies (25% to 200%)
- capacity to handle 1-99 copies with automatic collation
- flatbed scanner area 2x3.5" to 8.5x14" and 8.5x15" through auto - document feeder
- 32MB standard, upgradeable to 96MB

PhP 31,199

Simple, low-cost, and reliable, HP LaserJet printers are designed to give you high-quality black and white printouts. With easy-to-use technology, worry-free printing capacity and imaging system, they're the perfect solution to handle the fundamental printing requirements of your business. Plus, from March 7 to April 30, 2003, every purchase of an HP LaserJet 1000, 1200, 1220 or 3300mfp printer, gets you a free limited edition HP jacket. Now that's more coverage for you and your business. So hurry, contact your HP LaserJet dealer now.

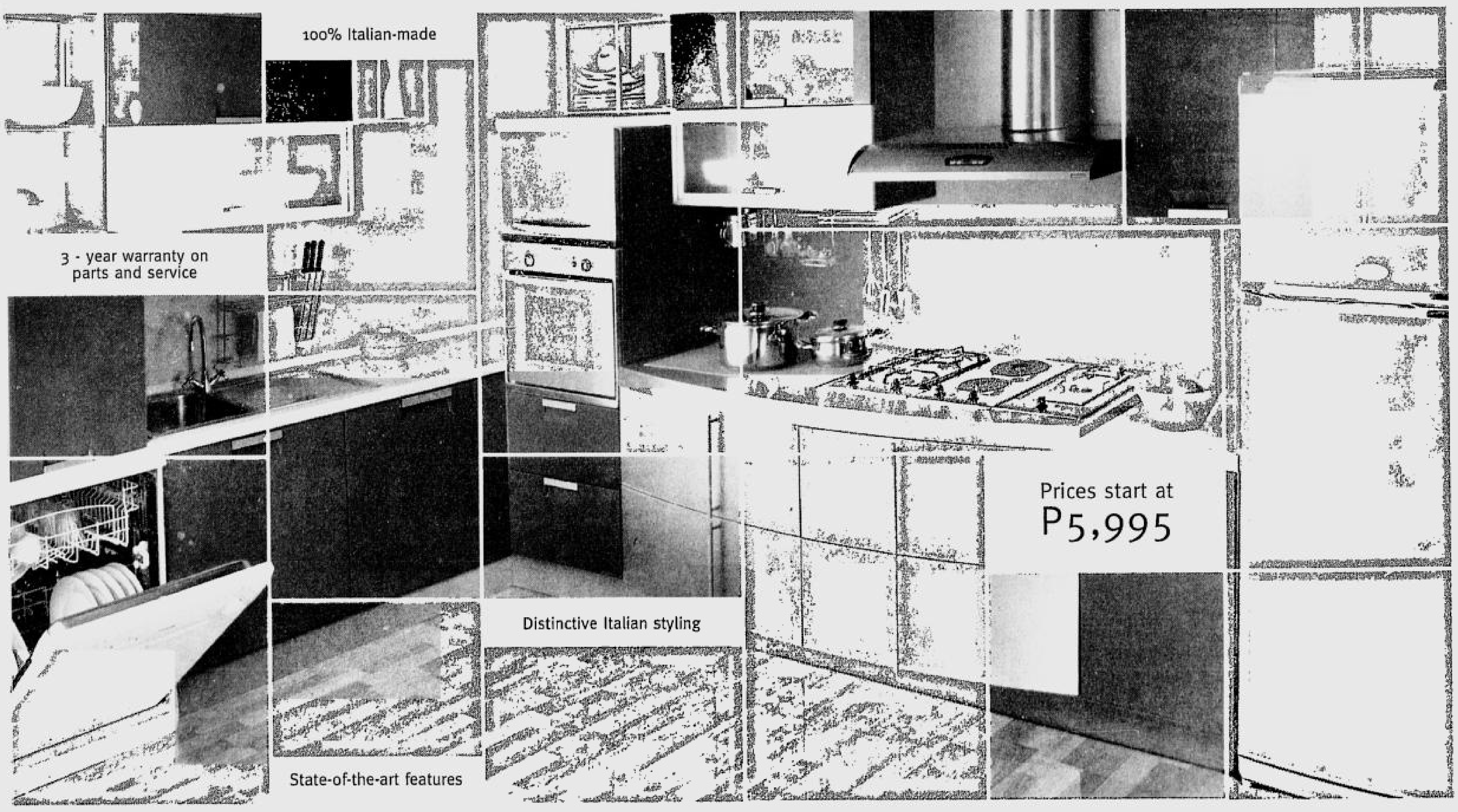
For more information, call (632) 867-3557 or toll-free 1-800-1331-4488 or email ph.contact@hp.com

invent

Participating resellers: ABC Computers 721-4960, 722-0370 • Accent Micro Products 634-2417/927-7330 • Asianic/Acrotech 781-8245 to 48 • CBX Corporation - Cebu (032) 231-4369,253-0602 • Columbia Computer Center - Davao (082) 221-1475, 221-1678 • Columbia Computer Superstore 633-9307 to10, 809-5475 • Complink Marketing 637-1234, 687-3165 /60 • CT Link Systems (632) 893-9515 • Dillsha 740-1888, 740-1891• Electroworld 813-6154 • Electroworld-Cebu (032)345-2787 to 89 • Fat Kee Computer Systems 727-3771 to 78 • First Data Corp. (632) 893-6657 • Integrated Computer Systems (632) 727-3801 • Infoworx 897-5147/897-5279 • Lenton Marketing Cebu (032) 253-9449/9451 • MDR Microware Sales (032) 255-4415/254-5382 • Microphase Enterprise Co. 812-8814 • Microtech Corp. 242-7536 • Nexus Technologies (632) 759-6630 • NT Computer Mart 927-2507, 633-4690 • PC Corner 723-1718, 723-2839 • PC Express 718-2828, 718-3838 • PC Live 631-6233, 925-5688 • Perfectbyte 723-1718,727-1834 • Phil Data (632) 811-2878 • Prodata Systems 414-4336/47, 723-0030, Shellsoft Tech. Corp. 740-0431 • Silicon Valley 812-6734/43 • The Computer Authority 636-5515 • Thinking Tools, Inc. (032) 254-2227 • Total Quality Machines 526-4503 • Unison (632) 374-5888 • Villman Computer System 929-0411, 892-2222 • Yutivo Corp. (632) 241-4601 • Zenshin Systems Corp. 365-0536

©2003 Hewlett-Packard Company. All Rights Reserved.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0094, Series of 2003.


100% Italian-made
3 - year warranty on parts and service
Prices start at P5,995
Distinctive Italian styling
State-of-the-art features

Sophisticated styling at down-to-earth prices from Italy's premier appliance manufacturer.
Pick and choose from a gallery of kitchen appliances and accessories to create your own dream kitchen. Prices start at P5,995.

Other rangehood models available in 60cm and 90cm; slim and decorative types; white and stainless steel. Other built-in hobs available in 30cm, 60cm, 75cm, and 90cm; gas and electric; stainless steel finish. Other built-in ovens available in 60cm and 90cm; gas and electric; stainless steel finish.

Kitchen display courtesy of Deutsche Kuche. Call 633-29-06.

Shangri-la Showroom: (02) 631-82-82 • Megamall Showroom: (02) 637-74-58 • Anson Arcade Showroom: (02) 887-0075

ARISTON
Italian Designer Kitchens
www.aristonchannel.com

Intentional sneezing . . .

From page A1

Teodoro "Teddyboy" Locsin noted that the measure's definition of terrorism could include "intentional sneezing" as a punishable act.

He observed that in Section 3 of the "Anti-Terrorism Act of 2003," the manufacture, possession, acquisition, transport, supply, use or sale of biological agents, as well as other banned materials, was deemed to constitute an act of terrorism.

"I would suggest that you qualify ['biological agent'] with 'toxic' because, otherwise, sneezing will become a terrorist act, especially in a time of SARS. Would you agree to that?" Locsin told Eastern Samar Rep. Marcelino Libanan, who was defending the measure.

"It depends on your intention, Mr. Speaker," said Libanan, who chairs the House committee on justice. "If you sneeze with the intent of creating common danger, terror, panic or chaos to the public or a segment thereof, then you can be charged as a terrorist."

He added that intentional sneezing would be terrorism if the sneezer knew that he or she was afflicted with SARS.

Locsin pointed out that sneezing intentionally would be "very hard to do."

"I understand sneezing is a reflexive act," he said, "but nonetheless..."

But Libanan insisted: "It depends on your intention. If you sneeze for the sake of sneezing, it is not terrorism. But if you wish to create panic. . . for example, you know that you have SARS."

"I am glad, rather, I am alarmed, to hear that," Locsin said. "Well, on the other hand, it may just be what we need in this time of SARS: to terrify the [people] that they better learn their manners."

Use pork against SARS, solon urges colleagues

From page A1

Muntinlupa Rep. Ruffy Biazon said each representative should contribute P200,000 and every senator P500,000 from their Priority Development Assistance Funds (PDAF), also known as pork barrel, for the government's anti-SARS campaign.

Pork barrel is money taken from the national budget that funds projects of a member of the House of Representatives in a district or of a senator in various parts of the country. Last year, a senator was allocated P200 million in pork and a representative of a district, P65 million in PDAF. A sectoral representative was allocated P35 million.

Though the money is not released to legislators, it is a source of kickbacks for a number of legislators, who are given a percentage of the project cost by contractors.

Senators' P3-B inserts

Biazon's proposal came as Assistant Minority Leader Abraham Mitra disclosed that the P804-billion budget signed into law by President Macapagal-Arroyo on Wednesday "was embedded with pork (for senators)."

In addition to the pork allocation for their pet projects, senators inserted P3 billion in the national budget, according to Mitra.

He said the senators made an "11th hour insertion" of a total of P3.8 billion in pork during the bicameral conference committee that reconciled the final budget bill. Of the amount, P800 million was in the form of additional pork for congressmen.

Biazon said the anti-SARS fund was necessary to enhance the facilities and capabilities of hospitals, particularly the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) in his district, which has been designated as reference center for SARS cases.

The fund "will be used for upgrading the infrastructure and facilities of designated SARS centers, the purchase of equipment necessary for the treatment and care of SARS patients, the hiring of additional personnel and the purchase of medicines for SARS patients," he said.

RITM upgrade

Because of the possibility of a SARS outbreak in the country, the RITM should be upgraded to the standards set by the World Health Organization, according to Biazon.

Mitra said the bicameral conference committee increased PDAF to P8.3 billion. Some P1.3 billion was added to the budget of the Department of Public Works and Highways, another source of pork barrel for legislators.

Mitra, who belongs to the House opposition, said the additional P3 billion fattened the senatorial pork to P5.6 billion.

"If a senator has a minimum P200 million in pork this year, then their combined pork outlay must be P5.6 billion," he said.

"But we are talking here of just the minimum 'boundary' (since) some are said to have bagged P300 million," Mitra added.

He said it was possible that three senators would share P1 billion of the additional pork.

Unlike the "equitably distributed" allocation of pork for representatives, spending of pork by senators does not follow any prescribed criteria or pattern.

"Under the present system, a senator can theoretically pour all his marbles in one *sitio*, or let one town swim in a sea of lard," Mitra said.

"If pork is unavoidable and is here to stay as part of the infrastructure diet, we might as well impose the condition that senatorial pork be spent nationwide on a pro-rata basis," he said.

The pork insertion happened even as Sen. Panfilo Lacson gave up his P200-million entitlement.

Lacson's voluntary pork abstinence, as Mitra put it, brought down the national budget that Malacañang had proposed from P804.2 billion to P804 billion.

Libya bars RP workers

By Norman Bordadora

SOME 132 overseas Filipino workers bound for Libya were prevented from boarding their respective flights after the Libyan Embassy in Manila issued a memorandum advising airlines that Filipinos would be deported when they get to Tripoli.

The deployment of workers to Libya was temporarily suspended because of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic currently sweeping the world.

Foreign Undersecretary Jose Brillantes said the Department of Foreign Affairs is conducting diplomatic negotiations with the Libyan Embassy. He said the DFA is also coordinating with the Department of Health to provide documents to the workers certifying that they are SARS-free to convince the Libyan government to allow Filipino workers into the country.

"No airline is allowed to transport Filipino contract workers bound for Libya, otherwise they will be deported back to the Philippines and Libya will not shoulder their airfare," said the memorandum by Libyan Ambassador Salem Adam.

Overseas Filipino workers at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport were surprised when told by airline representatives at the check-in counters that they had been banned from reporting to their waiting employment in Libya.

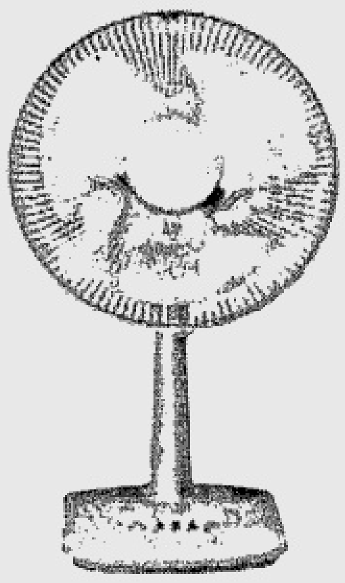
The other day, Saudi Arabia missions in China, Singapore, Hong Kong and the Philippines were instructed to stop issuing umrah, or minor pilgrimage visas indefinitely because of fears over the spread of SARS.

FABTECH
CELEBRATING RATIONAL WEEK
FROM APRIL 23 TO 30, 2003
KITCHEN SOLUTIONS | REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS | STAINLESS STEEL ART
EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR OF:
RATIONAL iRiNOX COSTAN Copeland

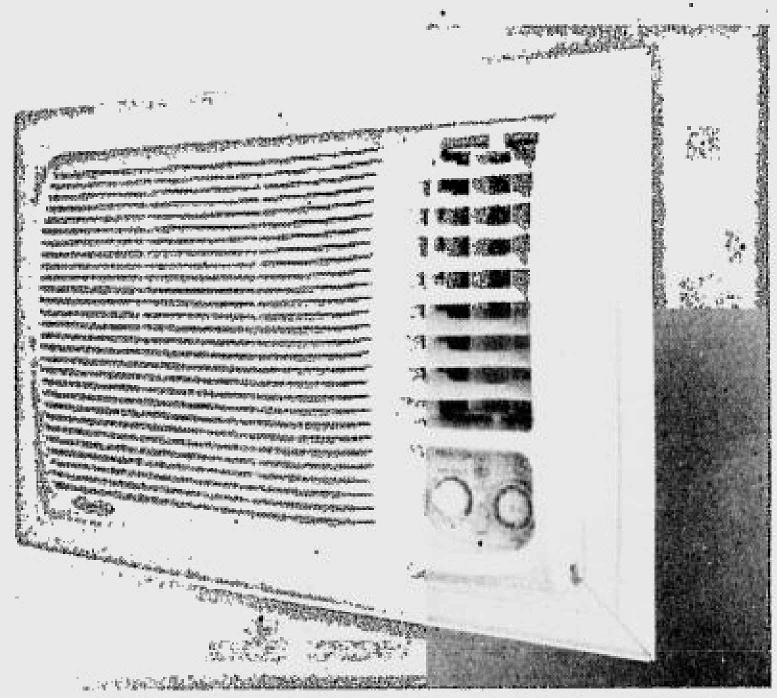
Combi-Steamer
Blast Chiller/Freezer
Leonardo
Compressor

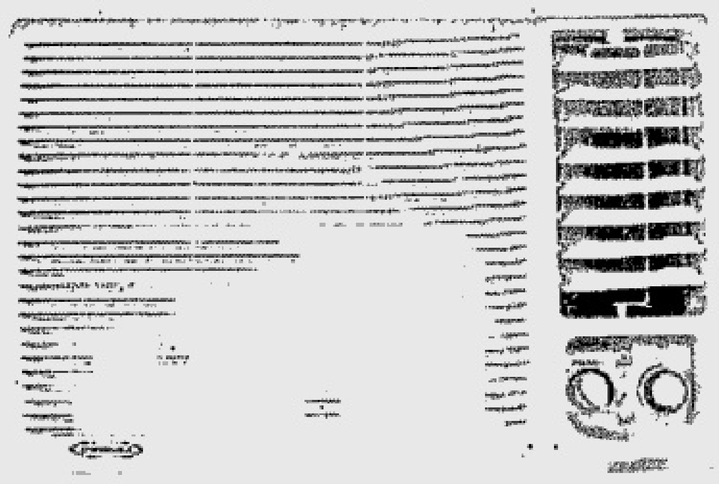
FREE LIVE COOKING DEMO
Introducing: CHEF THOMAS SCHWEINFEST
Executive Chef from Rational Germany
SCHEDULE: 1:00 - 4:00 PM
APRIL 24, 2003 - Bulk Cooking (Caterers, Commissaries)
APRIL 28, 2003 - Fast Food Chains
APRIL 29, 2003 - Hotels & Restaurants
* Watch the latest in Cooking Technology, surpassing HACCP guidelines for Food Safety. The equipment used by most major Food Companies.
SHOWROOM: 1229 QUEZON AVENUE, Q.C. (Near West Ave., Beside Autoworld)
REGISTRATION REQUIRED PLS. CALL: 413-3333 / 373-0333 FOR TRADE ONLY

When you want to save:
With the high cost of energy, you could sacrifice your comfort just to save on electricity.

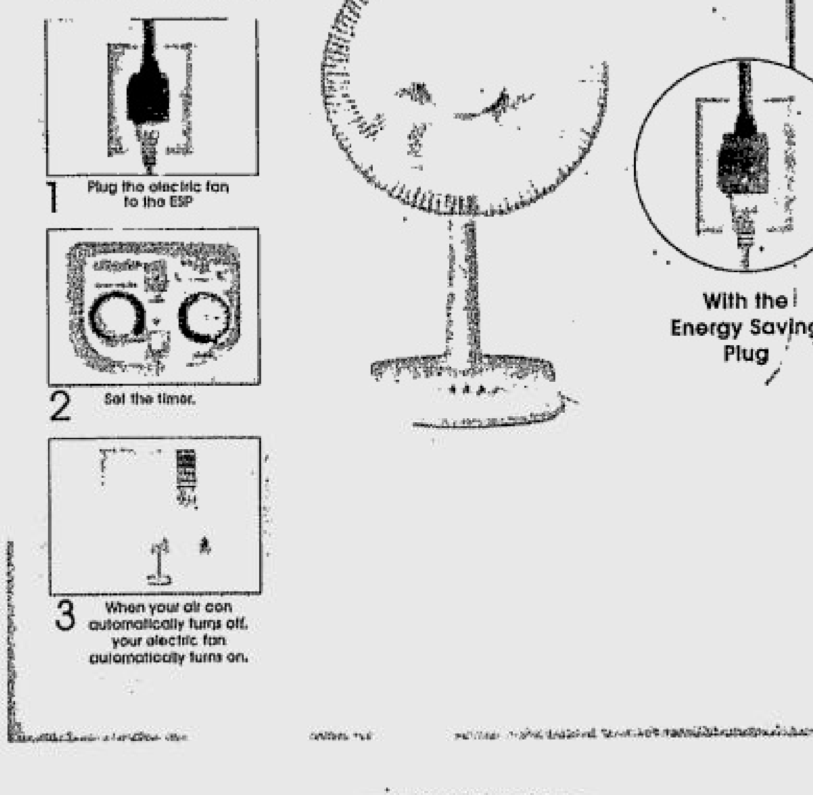


When you want to be comfortable:
The Condura EBX has a high Energy Efficiency ratio and the lowest operating wattage in its class. You get the cooling comfort you need and the low electric bills you want.





When you want to be comfortable while saving up to 40%* on electrical consumption:
Now you can be cool and comfortable without having to worry about your electric bills. The Condura EBX with the exclusive Energy Saving Plug.
Just plug in. And save.
Here's how:


1 Plug the electric fan to the ESP
2 Set the timer.
3 When your air con automatically turns off, your electric fan automatically turns on.
With the Energy Saving Plug

*Save at least
P4,200
annually
Versus other regular brands.
Based on a 6 hours a day, 30 days a month computation with the rate of P6.60 per kilowatt hour.
CONCEPCION-CARRIER
AIR CONDITIONING
CONCEPCION CARRIER CUSTOMER CARE
FASTxt
Txt mo. Service ko!
0917-8435555
0918-9175555
CONDURA
AN EVEN BETTER CHOICE

EUGENIA
D. APOSTOL
*Founding
Chairman*

Vol. 18 No. 136
ISSN
0116-2642

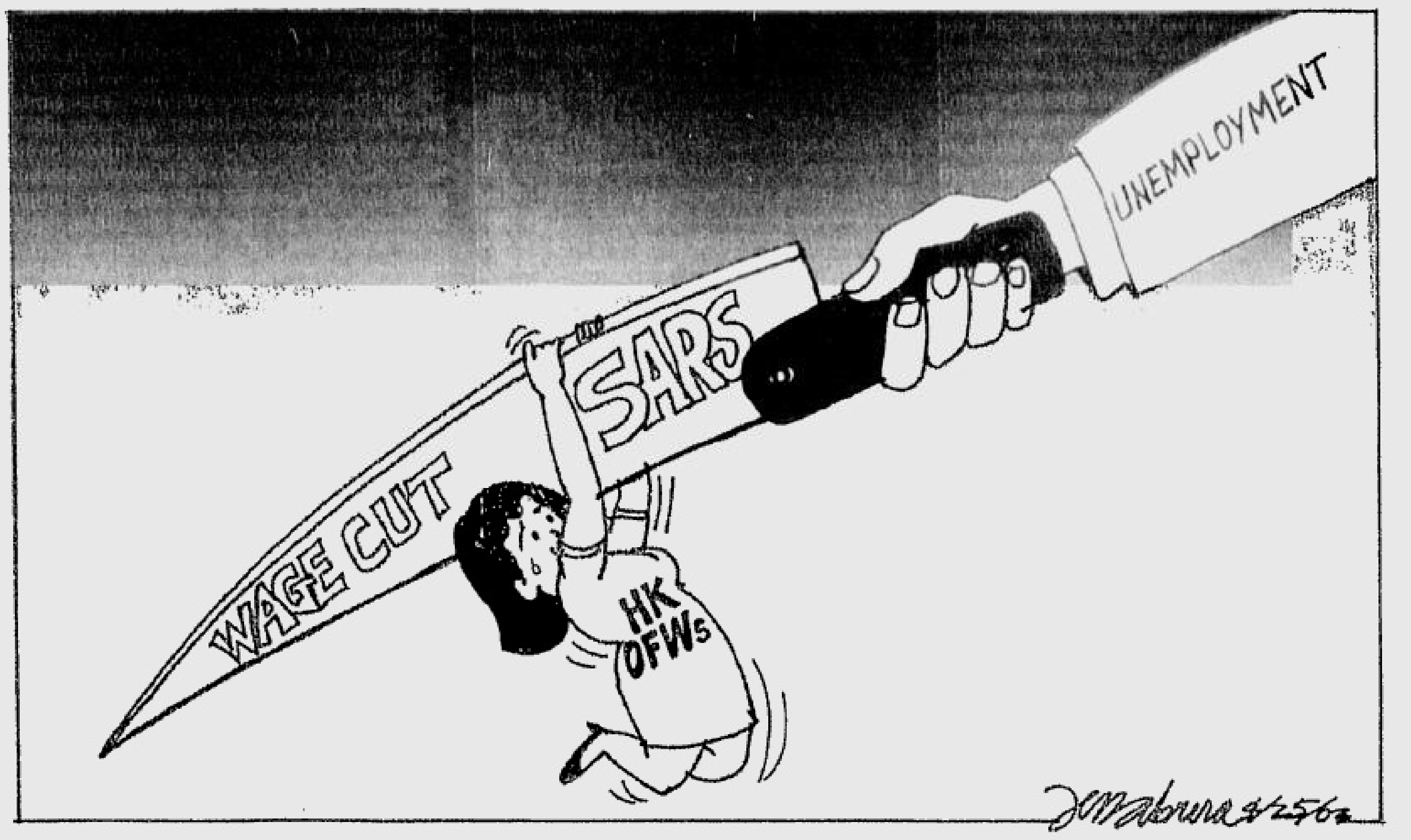
OPINION
email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph **website:** http://www.inq7.net

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•100% soy ink •

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • *Chief, News Day Desk* NILO B. PAUROM
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
City Editor GERRY LIRIO
Senior Desk Editor ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services DAVID O. VALDES
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.



Containment

EDITORIAL

RESIDENTS of Barangay Vacante in Alcala, Pangasinan, are mad at just about everybody else. They are angry at health officials for ordering a quarantine of the whole village. They are angry at town officials for declaring a state of "health emergency." They are angry at the media for reporting "false information" about their neighbors. And they are angry at their town mates who avoid them like the plague. "We feel like outcasts in our own land," said an old man. "It's as if we were lepers," complained a young fellow. "People turn away when they see us coming."

But if they had leprosy, they wouldn't be shunned so completely by everybody else. Unlike during biblical times and up to the early part of the 20th century, people now know that leprosy cannot be acquired by simply coming close to a leper. And they also know that there is a cure for the disease.

Which is not the case with atypical pneumonia or SARS. Five months after the first case of this modern disease was detected in China, doctors are still not sure exactly how it is transmitted. Their educated guess is that it is transferred from a sick person to a healthy one by coughing or sneezing or by touching or handling things earlier touched by someone afflicted with SARS. Worse than not knowing how SARS is acquired is knowing that no cure for it has been found yet. And it is this fear of the unknown that is fueling panic not only in our corner of the world but in many other places around the globe.

It has been Vacante's bad luck to have had one of its *balikbayan* guests come down with symptoms associated with SARS and die. Adela Catalon, a long-time resident of Toronto, Canada, came home early this month to have her cancer-stricken father treated. Eleven days later she was dead. At first, health authorities flatly denied that it was SARS that killed her. But when four relatives, including her father, developed high fever, the government was forced to concede that Catalon was a "probable" victim of SARS. (Her father also died last Tuesday, but health authorities said it was due to colon cancer.)

Only then did the authorities order the entire barangay of some 800 people kept in quarantine. But by then, residents were already feeling like they were being ostracized as some television channels had started broadcasting what residents called "misinformation." People from neighboring villages would not go near them for fear of contamination. Health personnel doing the rounds of houses to check on everyone's health donned masks and plastic coats, "as if our village is a very dangerous place," said one angry resident.

Maybe Vacante is not "a very dangerous place." Maybe no one has contracted SARS. But that is exactly the problem: No one can say with absolute certainty that Catalon had not contaminated anyone she came in contact with during her brief homecoming or about 250 other people she met during a wedding and as she went to several other cities and towns looking for a doctor who could heal her father. So painful as the isolation and snub may be, the people of Vacante should bear it with understanding and patience. If the situation had been reversed, they probably would have behaved the same way as their neighbors and demanded that similar precautionary measures be taken by health and local government authorities.

This is one time when prudence dictates that if the government must err, it should do so on the side of prudence to prevent what could be a bigger tragedy not only for the town or province but possibly the whole country. In the absence of a cure, containment is the only available remedy to check the spread of this mysterious disease.

Worst option

FOREIGN COMMENT

THE BEST way to conduct a humanitarian campaign in Iraq would be under the auspices of either the UN or Nato. France and Germany appear to be helpful, and this would be the best option for the campaign aims and for transatlantic diplomacy. But American intransigence toward France raises doubts as to whether Washington will consider these options. Without them, America and its "coalition of the willing" would be alone to carry out the humanitarian campaign. This would be the worst option; it would increase the distance between "old" and "new" Europe, making it impossible to achieve a common foreign policy, and bolster French, German and Belgian initiative to create a European army.

Il Messaggero (Rome)

Airing their sides, excuses

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

TODAY we will give the floor to some personalities who have been the subject of some of our columns, to give them the opportunity to air their sides and be fair to them, even if I am not convinced by their excuses.

The latest to send an excuse is Agriculture Secretary Luis P. Lorenzo Jr. Last April 16, I asked why Lorenzo is sitting on the replacement for DENR's DAO 17 which set the guidelines for the delineation of municipal fishing waters. Municipal waters are reserved for subsistence fishermen and is off-limits to commercial fishermen.

Sometime ago, the Department of Justice issued a legal opinion that the DENR is not the proper agency to issue these guidelines but the Department of Agriculture. So Environment Secretary Elisea Gozun revoked DAO 17 and asked Secretary Lorenzo to issue his own. This angered the subsistence fishermen who said that the revocation was Gozun's payment for her confirmation by the Commission on Appointments, one of whose leaders is Rep. Brown Sandoval of Palawan, among the biggest deep-sea fishermen in the Philippines. The angry fishermen wanted Gozun out of the DENR if she did not reimpose DAO 17.

I said the fishermen are barking up the wrong tree. Why are they zeroing in on the DENR when they should be demonstrating at the nearby DA to prompt Lorenzo to hurry up and sign DAO 17? Why is he being so slow about it and why are the fishermen treating him with kid gloves?

In his excuse letter, Lorenzo admitted that DAO 17, "despite all its perceived flaws, was a positive step toward providing a fair solution to the problems attending the controversial delineation of the country's municipal waters."

As I see it, to cool down the angry fishermen, all Lorenzo has to do is affix his signature to the DAO 17, which was already being implemented until the DOJ made its legal opinion. But Lorenzo said that he "has formulated a carefully crafted strategy that involves proactive consultations with all stakeholders, a process that is, of course, both deliberate and continuing."

Translation: It would be a long, slow process before the fishermen will get a new DAO 17, which could be different from the old one.

The DENR had already held long consultations with all stakeholders before DAO 17 was issued. Why repeat that tedious process? Both sides would simply repeat what they said the first time. Why not just look at the DENR's minutes of those consultations?

Perhaps the reason, said the fishermen's groups, is that Lorenzo has not yet been confirmed by the Commission on Appointments. With Congressman Sandoval and his friends there, he may not be confirmed if he issued an order that is not favorable to the deep-sea fishermen. On the other hand, he would be lynched by the subsistence fishermen if he issues an order vastly different from DAO 17 and disadvantageous to them.

Lorezo's solution: Delay, delay, delay.

* * *

On April 9, this column dwelt on the mine tunnel collapse in Mt. Diwalwal, Compostela Valley where 19 miners were trapped. Seventeen of them were eventually rescued but two are still missing and presumed dead.

This column said the facts seem to pinpoint responsibility for the tragedy to the DENR's Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) headed by Director Horacio Ramos. I enumerated these facts, the most significant of which was that Ramos' MGB was made the project director of the gold rush area, the principal purpose of which was to assure the "sustained livelihoods, health and safety" of the miners. When President Macapagal-Arroyo visited the Diwalwal gold rush area on Nov. 5, 2002, Ramos assured her that the safety and well-being of the small scale farmers "will be protected by his office."

Four months later, on March 12, 2003, a mine tunnel in the gold rush area collapsed, trapping the 19 miners.

You be the judge: Were Ramos and his MGB remiss in their duty?

In his excuse letter, Ramos admitted "most of the facts you mentioned (are) indeed true." He refused, however, to take responsibility for the tragedy. He passed the buck to the Natural Resources Development Corp. (NRDC), also of the DENR.

Washing his hands of responsibility, he said: "I would like to emphasize that the DENR, through the (NRDC), is primarily responsible for the development and utilization activities in Diwalwal. The role of the MGB is to provide technical assistance to the NRDC."

This, in spite of the fact that responsibility for the "health and safety" of the miners was placed by the DENR secretary on the shoulders of Ramos and the MGB, which he acknowledged, even assuring the President that his office will "protect… the safety and well-being of the small-scale farmers."

* * *

In an even earlier column, I reported that the Department of Justice has sent a letter to the US Department of Justice asking if the latter wants the extradition of Isabela Gov. Faustino Dy Jr. who, according to records, is wanted in Los Angeles. Along with three other Filipinos, he is accused of stealing rented cars and shipping them to the Philippines. The three others have already been tried, convicted and sent to prison, but Dy, according to the records, evaded arrest by escaping to the Philippines. A warrant of arrest has been issued for him and bail recommended at $750,000.

The US DOJ has not yet answered, but Governor Dy, in his reaction, said that he has gone back to the United States after the alleged arrest orders but was not arrested, so the reports could not have been true. He showed photocopies of his passport with US visa, plane ticket and boarding pass.

Only the US DOJ can clarify this.

A legend passes

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I REMEMBER reading some time ago how many of the great black musicians in the United States got hooked on drugs and died from them. That was the case with Billie Holiday, that was the case with John Coltrane, that was the case with Miles Davis. The reason for the epidemic had little to do with the culture of jazz, or if it did, it was not because they fell prey to it but because they built it with their tears and lamentations.

Most of those black musicians were incredibly gifted, some like Davis were absolute geniuses. Yet though they were so, they suffered constant humiliation from being black. This was so particularly in the 1950s and 1960s, when racism rioted like weeds in an untended garden, and particularly in the South, where many of the black musicians came from. Being blessed with abundant gifts yet cursed by equally abundant scorn by society (once they stepped out of the stage, they reverted to folk that had no business living in white communities) it drove them to anger, despair and drugs.

Nina Simone took a quite different route.

She was, like Holiday, Coltrane and Davis gifted beyond measure. She was probably the last of the great black women singers which included Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughn. But she had more than a voice most singers would die for, big, husky and lush, which she used the way sculptors used their cutting tools to create forms from shapeless mass. She also had prodigious playing and composing skills.

Nina Simone was born Eunice Kathleen Waymon in North Carolina, the sixth of eight children. She was a child prodigy, showing her musical abilities early on. She gave her first piano recital at 10. In her teens, she managed to land a spot in Julliard in New York, one of few black people to do so. Another notable was Miles Davis.

After her family moved to Philadelphia, to support herself and her music studies, she applied for a job as a pianist in a club in Atlantic City. The club owner, who wanted to hire only one performer instead of two, said she had to sing as well. She did, astounding herself as much as her audience. It was there she adopted the name Nina Simone from "niña," Spanish for little girl, and "Simone" from actress Simone Signoret.

In 1973, she left the United States—it would turn out for good—and lived variously in Barbados, Liberia, Switzerland, Paris, the Netherlands and the South of France. The last she made her permanent residence. That is the reason she is not particularly known here, compared to Holiday, Fiztgerald and Vaughn. But her talents were by no means less, one could even make a case for them being more plentiful.

Her reason for leaving the United States was the same reason Davis and others took to drugs: racism. I saw a feature of her on BBC a couple of years ago—she had put on weight and smoked a lot, but she remained regal and imperious, a dominating figure till the end—and she was still bitter over it. Asked by the interviewer if she would consider going back to live in the United States, she said not until Americans learned to see people beyond their skins. Despite the improvements, she said, the undercurrents of racism continued to run torrentially in the underbelly of America. She would have none of it.

She had had her share of it in her lifetime. The first time she saw it was when she played her first recital at 10. Her parents were asked to give up their front-row seats to a couple of whites. After they moved to Philadelphia, armed with her stint at Julliard, she applied for a scholarship at the Curtis Institute but was rejected. For not being good enough musically!

But unlike many of her illustrious predecessors and contemporaries, Simone did not take a self-destructive path, she fought back. She became an outspoken figure of the civil rights movement, putting her protest across in the best way she knew how—in song. She wrote one of her best known songs, "Mississippi Goddam," when the Ku Klux Klan bombed a church in Birmingham in 1963, killing four black children. "This is a show tune," she says sardonically in her live version, "but the show hasn't been written for it yet." She wrote several more civil rights songs, among them: "Why? The King of Love is Dead," after Martin Luther King was assassinated, "Brown Baby," "Images," "Go Limp," "Old Jim Crow," and "To be Young, Gifted and Black," based on a play which became the national anthem of black America.

In 1998, she was the special guest in Nelson Mandela's 80th birthday party.

But in the end, I figure Simone triumphed over the intolerance of her time far less in her contributions to the civil rights movement though they were formidable, than in her contribution to popular music itself. She was a unique talent, one who had remarkable vocal range and musical imagination. Her arrangements ranged from Kurt Weill and Bertoldt Brecht's "Pirate Jenny" (from "Three Penny Opera") to George Harrison's "Here Comes the Sun." She could be theatrical and lyrical, angry and sad, tearful and euphoric, often at the same time. Her version of "Ne Me Quitte Pas" (translated into English as "If You Go Away") is one of the best I've heard. She sings it with such ache and longing, her voice trembling like an anxious, or deserted, lover, but also with great power and strength, like someone who has seen so many storms in life, she will weather this one. This is no tremulous soul wallowing in self-pity.

Eunice Kathleen Waymon, aka Nina Simone died last Monday in her home in the south of France. You might want to spare a thought or prayer for her if you have the time. Better still, you might want to dust off those old records and send them spinning again in the turntable.

That you have to make time for.

* * *

Comments to dequiros@info.com.ph

A leadership's failure to inspire

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

EAST Asian economies had clawed back to economic recovery from a regional average of 3.5 percent in 2001 to nearly 6 percent in 2002, but these gains now face being wiped out by two shocks in 2003—the uncertainties of the Iraq war followed in quick succession by the SARS epidemic.

The World Bank and economists of private companies are now reassessing the economic outlook of the region and are trimming growth forecasts for the year and years beyond. Economists have pared down gross domestic product growth rates of East Asian economies within a band of between 0.1 percent and 2 percent.

One forecast predicts a 0.1-1.0 percent contraction of the Philippine GDP, smaller than rates forecast for Hong Kong and Singapore, with Hong Kong being one of the hardest-hit by SARS. The finance department believes that the Philippines would fare better than most East Asian economies because its economy is less dependent on exports and its tourist industry is smaller than that of Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand.

We had a better than expected growth rate last year and the government's projected GDP growth rate of 5.2 percent is on the high end next year, compared to 4.6 percent last year. The optimism of the government in the midst of global economic shocks and gloom is both admirable and worrying. It echoes the government's attitude nurtured in the aftermath of the 1997 Asian financial crisis, in which we said the economy escaped the worst impact of the meltdown and did better than most East Asian economies. But we failed to build up on that advantage, and by the year 2002, our growth rate was overtaken by that of most East Asian economies.

The Macapagal administration is walking into the SARS health crisis which has certainly been a setback for our economic expansion, as it has been for the other Asian economies. We don't know how long the SARS uncertainty will last and what will be the effect of the new economic downturn on the political fortunes of the Macapagal administration as it lurches from one crisis (the Iraqi) war to the next.

The Iraqi war delivered a shock to the popularity rating of the administration, if we are to believe the explanation of the Social Weather Stations. In the March 2003 SWS survey, President Macapagal-Arroyo's net satisfaction rating plunged to a record low of -14 percent, down from the +6 percent in December 2002. The SWS blames the fall of the rating to the administration's alignment with the Iraq war policy of US President George W. Bush.

But now that Bush has swiftly won his war on Iraq, will that military victory translate into triumphalism that will lift the continuing sag of President Macapagal's performance rating?

With the military campaign behind us, alignment of the Philippines to the US war policy can no longer be used as an excuse to explain the President's plummeting popularity rating. But she has been supplied with another possible explanation, if her popularity continues to tumble—and the explanation is the economic impact of the SARS shock.

External shocks or contingencies cannot always be used as an excuse for poor leadership performance. Pretty soon, the President will run out of exogenous events that grab the headlines and divert attention away from unsatisfactory performance. When these run out, the administration will have to face the domestic political reality, of not having been able to galvanize the nation to political and economic dynamism that was expected to follow her decision to withdraw from the 2004 presidential race.

The purpose of her withdrawal, according to her declaration, is to reinvigorate the presidency by putting her administration above the poisonous atmosphere of partisan politics and by building a consensus for reform in the remaining months of her administration.

The revitalization of the presidency has not happened. True, she packaged an agenda of legislative priorities, but if one examines the result, only a few items have been translated into legislation or executive programs. The fact that the administration managed to push through Congress the anti-money laundering law among a number of key reform measures, does not reflect a reinvigorated presidency that has gained the initiative and the capacity to get things done as a result of her self-abnegation in the presidential succession. One of the measures which the public has been anxiously following for results—the computerization of the election mechanism—has stalled painfully in the Comelec. True, finally the bidding process has started, but the process is not moving fast enough, reflecting the leadership vacuum that has developed after her withdrawal last December.

There has been a suffocating intensity of rhetoric of a "strong republic" that was expected to emerge from her political self-denial, but I am afraid she and her ideologues have confused empty rhetoric for a strong state.

The continuing decline of her popularity cannot accurately be attributed to foreign policy supporting Bush's war on Iraq. It is only part of the explanation. There must be some underlying causes for her failure to take off in her quest to shake the nation and galvanize public support behind her programs. The failure to take off is symptomatic of a failure of providing inspiring and strong leadership. No one seems to take her seriously and follow her bidding. Everyone seems to be biding his time, waiting for a new gale of winds to gust up after May 2004.

It is a pity that her withdrawal from presidential succession has become a wasted opportunity to move the nation out of lethargy and divisions. President Macapagal has been reduced to merely being a caretaker of the nation.

Adela's last days

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THE STORY of the last days in the life of Adela Catalon, the "A.C." identified as a "possible SARS case" who died at the San Lazaro Hospital last April 14, is a testimony not just to the difficulty involved in imposing a total quarantine on gregarious and sociable Filipinos, but also to the incredible sense of filial loyalty and devotion of Filipinas, which Adela certainly embodied.

A caregiver and nursing attendant for more than 20 years in Canada, she went home to Alcala, Pangasinan to look after her father who was dying of colon cancer. In the nine days she was in the country, Adela traveled practically the length and breadth of Luzon in search of a cure for her father. She brought him to Manila to consult with a specialist, staying with and visiting relatives in the city in the process. When the prognosis from doctors wasn't too hopeful, Adela and her father then went in search of alternative cures, searching for *albularyos* or faith healers in Tarlac and Baguio. Why, she even found time to attend the high school graduation of a niece and stand as a sponsor at a relative's wedding in Baguio!

A TV report quotes health authorities as being "astounded" by the number of people Adela came in close contact with in just over a week's stay, which they now estimate to be around 800. Incredibly, relatives say Adela was already running a fever when she arrived from Canada. One wonders where she found the energy to go to all the places she did with her ailing father before the symptoms of possible SARS got the better of her.

* * *

MY suspicion is that Adela dug from the same bottomless well of devotion to her family that led her to seek employment abroad in the first place. I can just imagine Adela deciding to take things in her own hands and making the long trip to Alcala to personally look for a cure for her father. Like many who become the de facto head of family because they're looked upon as the source of financial support, Adela may have thought her father's survival necessitated her personal care and vigilance, believing she should take a more aggressive approach in the search for a cure.

If indeed Adela had come down with SARS, and if she had infected her father and this, not the cancer, had ultimately killed him, I'm sure Adela would have been the first to realize the irony of the situation.

But that shouldn't detract a bit from Adela's heroism. SARS or no SARS, she deserves the gratitude and love of her family and the admiration of her countryfolk. And there are thousands, maybe hundreds of thousands, of Pinays like her, often forsaking personal happiness and fulfillment to help their families financially and otherwise, and taking personal responsibility for the welfare of aging parents and the education of younger siblings and relatives.

SARS may have punctuated Adela's life with a sad, ironic and premature ending. But it was not what her life was all about.

* * *

REP. Jun Lozada has filed a bill that would give the government, specifically the Department of Health, more powers in imposing and maintaining a quarantine on individuals, homes and communities suspected of harboring an infectious disease.

The impetus for the legislation is the SARS outbreak, but the bill, if passed, may be used for the containment of other infectious diseases.

I have yet to read Lozada's bill, which allegedly has the support of Health Secretary Manolet Dayrit, but I can only hope its provenance in this time of panic and paranoia has not influenced its contents, allowing for more drastic and draconian measures than are necessary or sensible.

Reports say that in China, "special squads" have been sent out to round up people displaying symptoms of SARS. In Singapore, authorities have vowed to jail suspected SARS victims or those who have come in close contact with them who violate their quarantine restrictions. Given human nature, I can only guess that such threats and sanctions will only drive SARS further underground, making it much more difficult for public health authorities to track down possible carriers.

In Alcala, Barangay Vacante where the Catalon family lives has been put under quarantine. Pangasinan Gov. Victor Agbayani has asked for reinforcement from police and soldiers to ensure the quarantine is observed and "maintain calm" in the village. But already resentment is brewing among the Catalons' neighbors.

* * *

EARLY interviews with the Catalons and their neighbors revealed their fears of going hungry or losing their sources of income. When vendors and storeowners heard that they were from Barangay Vacante, they said, they were shooed away, with doors shut in their faces.

Food shortage and insecurity about their livelihoods would not make it likely that Vacante residents will take the quarantine with calm or a sense of civic duty. Perhaps the first thing that authorities should do when imposing quarantine is to reassure the residents that they will have plenty of food and water during the duration of the quarantine, that the quarantine is only temporary, and that they can protect themselves from the disease.

It's not enough to tell people to stay put so that they don't spread the disease to others. They must also be assured that they don't have to just wait for death to knock on their doors, that there are precautionary measures they can take to ward off infection, and that they have a good chance of surviving the disease should they come down with an infection.

And as our photographer Val Handumon's account reveals, the public seems to be getting the wrong messages about SARS. Hysteria and shunning will only slow down and not speed up the containment of an infectious disease like SARS.

Unfinished manuscript

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

WHILE people argue whether I am correct to assert that the unfinished Rizal work "Makamisa" is indeed the beginnings of a third novel after "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo," I continue to mine Rizal's works for material about his life and times. The *tuktukan* game described in last Wednesday's column continues with Cecilio taking up the challenge of Silvino:

"'Very well then, *tuktukan*! I accept your challenge.' [Cecilio] retorted helplessly, yet looking quite impassioned. 'Who will hold the egg below my hand?'

"'You will,' replied Silvino.

"'No, you will be the one above,' he said while trying to test the strength of his eggshell by gently hitting it against his front teeth to assure him of its resistance. He likewise made slight and delicate blows or *golpecitos* on the elongated portion of the egg.

"'Well, your suggestion is well taken,' replied Silvino quite generously, 'I'll hold my egg below your fist.'

"He grasped the elongated part of the egg firmly in the palm of his hand, leaving only a very tiny portion of it exposed between his thumb and forefinger. These boys knew by experience that between two eggs of equal resistance the egg placed below the hand usually loses strength since it receives the hardest blow.

"But the young boy suggested that they follow the rules of the game strictly, and first examine the eggs to be used. The young boy was glad, so that he could first test the strength of the eggshell by pounding it slightly against his teeth.

"Silvino also brought out his winning egg and tested it against his teeth. He opened his eyes wide to attract more attention from the onlookers. Upon testing, the egg gave a sharp and resistant sound; he was exceedingly glad that it was really an extraordinary egg for the contest.

"'Well, now my friend, allow me to examine your winning egg.' [Cecilio said as] he extended his hand to Silvino.

"'You have already examined mine!'

"'I'm giving you your option, whether I am to be below yours,' replied the young boy.

"'I can even get somebody to confirm that my egg is unbreakable. I'll pay him a real for it. If you wish I'll strike it against my teeth. Listen carefully and you can hear its sharp tinkling sound.'

"Silvino struck the egg once more against his teeth and it really produced a strong tinkling sound. The young boy, who had not had so much *tuktukan* experience, was readily convinced and nodded his approval for the contest to begin. Silvino firmly grasped his winning egg in the right position and smiled maliciously. [Cecilio] grasped the elongated portion of his egg with his right hand, when suddenly Silvino struck a strong blow against his opponent's egg, producing a cracking sound. [Cecilio] suddenly turned pale, while Silvino laughed sarcastically.

"'Give me that egg!' [Silvino said] as he suddenly seized it from Cecilio, who gave it to his opponent willingly without uttering a word. Tears welled in his eyes. Meanwhile Silvino victoriously kept on shouting loudly:

"'*Tutukan, tuktukan*! who wants to challenge me?'"

"At this point Cecilio asks for bigger bets—two pesos and the cracked egg to the winner—and all the boys gather round the *tuktukan* champions of the town:

"'First, we will entrust the money agreed upon to this fellow here,' Cecilio said pointing to another boy nearby.

"'*Naku*! the parish priest and your father might see us. Watch out!' Silvino shouted. Sensing that he would surely emerge the winner, he took two pesos from his pocket and took the winning egg from inside his handkerchief. Cecilio did the same thing. Silence reigned momentarily even if all seemed to be at the height of their excitement. Silvino bit his lips and gazed intently at the four pesos he was about to win, but Cecilio stood silent and motionless. 'Shall we test the eggs again?' he asked.

"'What for?' [Silvino replied and tried to divert attention by asking] 'Now what do you want? Who will hold the egg below and who will hold it above?'

This was settled simply by tossing a coin—*cara o cruz*—and: "Cecilio held his egg below his opponent's hands [thus like the first try]; it would receive the hardest blow. A diabolical smile brightened Silvino's face as Cecilio protected his egg, holding it carefully with both hands and showing only a very tiny portion of the elongated part of the egg, such that Silvino could hardly touch the tip. Silvino became angry, since he could not even hear the slightest ticking sound of his blow.

"'Both eggs are winners,' he decided quite hastily.

"'Both?' Cecilio asked, quite surprised.

There was a momentary silence, then Silvino tried to test his egg by striking it against his teeth one more. He stood up and made heavy blows on his opponent's egg repeatedly. Neither of the eggs cracked. However, they heard a faint cracking sound with the last blow.

"'It's already broken.' Silvino shouted triumphantly while looking at Cecilio's cracked egg with disdain. 'Your eggshell was already cracked.' Silvino glanced once more at the egg in his hand and noticed that the tip of the egg had indeed cracked.

"'*Lintik*!' he exclaimed angrily. He suddenly turned pale and looked at his opponent scornfully. Insults turn into blows not on the eggs but on the faces of Silvino and Cecilio. Worse, their fathers join the fray."

What is the game really like, we will never know except for what is left for us in an unfinished manuscript by Rizal.

* * *

Comments are welcome at [illegible]

I'll take Manhattan

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

MANHATTAN, NY—So goes the song, but it's really not that way about Manhattan. It takes you. In every great city in the world, there's always a center of gravity that swings and sizzles and captivates. Or, intimidates, if you don't like dizzying skyscrapers, for instance.

Manhattan does all that and more. And everyone has an opinion about this territory even if they haven't been here before.

On a personal note, this was my City of Refuge from freezing upstate New York many winters ago as a graduate student in Cornell. Everybody's favorite was the Empire State Building on 34th Street and 5th Avenue, even after the World Trade Center, completed in 1970, had already opened. Unknown to many New Yorkers of later generations, who certainly are not familiar with King Kong movies as well, a plane crashed into the top floors of Empire State in the '40s, as though foreshadowing the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center some 60 years later. In the 1970s, the top 30 floors of the Empire State's 102 stories were illuminated in color. And the view from these floors was truly awesome.

Manhattan of old, as in the '60s and '70s, radicalized a whole generation of Americans and non-Americans alike as the "new politics" marking the confluence of civil rights, anti-Vietnam war resistance, feminism and radical student activism emerged. Times Square, that fabulous, seedy strip of honky-tonk roughly encompassing 42nd and 47th Streets, would erupt with the fury of militant rhetoric covering just about everything, from bringing the boys home from Vietnam to sexual liberation. We rushed down from Cornell to Manhattan one time to witness the symbolic burning of bras, high heeled shoes and other objects of sexual oppression. Everybody's mantra was Kate Millet's landmark book, "Sexual Politics," newly minted from her doctoral dissertation in Yale.

There was so much passion, so much anger, so much angst appropriately matching the intensity of Times Square. It was the beginning of the end of Old America.

Many decades later, as in this very moment just a few days after another war, this time against Iraq, has been declared by the world's only remaining superpower, Manhattan is a shadow of its old militant self. Other cities in the world, such as Berlin, Rome, Paris and London have mobilized more impressive and contentious demonstrations. The closest approximation to the street politics of the '60s was the arrest last week of some 200 demonstrators around Rockefeller Center in midtown. The police hauled away scores of "die-in" protesters who were lying on the street tying up traffic. This was reminiscent of the "teach-in" phenomenon in the '60s when students abandoned the classroom for the more heady experience of the streets in the real world. But in those days, anti-war demonstrations and teach-ins could pull in easily a couple of hundred thousand at least. In public squares, in churches, in university auditoriums.

You walk around asking, like Rizal did, where are the youth who would die for their country? Is youthful passion gone? Could it be true what everybody says that after the '60s and '70s, the "me generation," the "yuppies" have channeled their energies to the power of corporate America? Or are people just glued to their TV sets feverishly wondering when Baghdad would fall and Saddam would finally keel over?

Meanwhile, another kind of politics is playing out on the streets of Manhattan. Just about every corner, one sees huge billboards advertising a TV movie about former New York City Mayor Rudy Guiliani. USA Network's "Rudy: The Rudy Guiliani Story" is airing shortly. Guiliani is best known for cleaning up New York, prosecuting mobsters and white-collar criminals. He started the secret grand jury investigation of Ferdinand Marcos, who was subsequently indicted under the RICO Act.

Actor James Woods, a Guiliani fan, traces the legendary political career of the hard-hitting mayor, from his days as a tough-as-nails justice department official and US attorney to the downcast hero on that fateful day in September, in which he gained the ultimate triumph for his heroic handling of the twin towers disaster. The movie is bound to be a blockbuster what with all the other crises—prostate cancer, marital woes, acrimonious divorce, problems with a new girlfriend—he has had to endure or resolve.

Does this mean anything larger politically? Of course. After 9/11 Guiliani looked presidential material. Now, with current Gov. George Pataki unable to run constitutionally for another term, Guiliani is looking good for a possible gubernatorial run. Pataki, in turn, could only go up, but so far, he or anybody has not declared any intentions of challenging George W. in the next Republican convention.

Manhattan is somewhat saddened in the midst of all these war jitters by the death of New York's former US Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Known as the "intellectual statesman," Moynihan was a scholar-politician who was instrumental in shaping US liberal thinking on critical domestic issues and foreign policy.

Unlike privileged intellectuals with a pedigree and elite credentials, Moynihan rose from the mean streets of New York's "Hell Kitchen" to become a Harvard professor. Before becoming senator, he was a "sometimes-controversial adviser" to four presidents, both Democratic and Republican, in the '60s and '70s. He also served as ambassador to India and the United Nations. "Ever the pedagogue," observes Gannett journalist John Machacek, "Moynihan dazzled colleagues with his wit and wide knowledge of global affairs." His policy proposals always provoked lively debates on welfare reform, race, poverty and ethnicity.

One usually high-profile politician, US Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, has been uncharacteristically quiet in these days of turmoil and disquiet. She hasn't said much about the war situation. She's out-of-the-sixties vintage, and if she were not in politics right now, she would have a very, very different perspective. Does power make previously radical/liberal firebrands mellow and closer to the center eventually? The senator would only say of Moynihan's death that, "we have lost a great American."

From Vietnam to Iraq. Two wars to compare on the streets of Manhattan. The former seemed so long ago. But for the latter, how long?

University of Hawaii-based professor Belinda A. Aquino is in New York attending the annual conference of the Association for Asian Studies.

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Do Pandacan oil depots have to move out?

DECADES ago, I used to live in the Paco-Pandacan district where the depots of the three major oil companies are situated. These installations, as they are known, have been in operation for over 80 years. now. That nothing disastrous has happened during that period is not just a matter of luck. It is a matter of acting responsibly all the time.

People love to bash oil companies because they make life hard for all of us who have to buy fuel. But like many of nature's resources, oil is a commodity that can be wielded for good or for evil ends.

What many overlook is that the oil majors, as they are commonly referred to, are multinational or transnational corporations that must function within the law in order to make profit for their stockholders-owners. In this globalized era of cyberspace, the reputation of a business firm is even more important than the dollars or euros flowing into company coffers.

Manila Ordinance 8027 rezoned the Pandacan depots' industrial premises into a commercial/residential area. It did not make the operations there unsafe, but rather, inappropriate for a permit.

It is standard operating procedure for multinationals to ensure their operations are at the highest state of international safety standards. It would be plain suicide for any corporate man, as well as the oil company he represents, to cut safety corners.

The lengthy underground pipeline that pumps petrol from Batangas City to Pandacan, Manila is ample proof of that commitment. The major drawback could be the security angle, considering that we are today under threat from Islamic extremists and communist rebels. But if I am not mistaken, even such risks have been considered in the equation.

In short, why do city officials really want the Pandacan oil depots to move out? Wouldn't it be more practical to just push adjoining communities, say, a hundred meters away?

—BASILIO H. ALO,
21 Matalino St., Diliman,
Quezon City

ACCs are not redundant

WITH REFERENCE to the INQUIRER's editorial last April 12, we find it unfortunate that the well-meaning objective of our government in establishing Area Coordination Centers (ACCs) throughout the country for the purpose of reducing our communities' vulnerability to disasters, crises and emergencies has been given a flawed and derisive interpretation.

The editorial viewed the setting up of ACCs as a case of "mismanagement of resources" as these centers allegedly merely duplicated the functions of our police and military. It likewise suggested that they are being used by Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes as a machinery for his political agenda.

Because of these conjectures and unfounded views, it is necessary that this be explained and clarified.

First of all, the establishment of ACCs as a vital mechanism of our National Internal Security Plan (NISP) finds legal basis in Executive Order No. 21, series of 2001. Being an arm of the NISP, the ACC helps the internal security committees, spearheaded by the Cabinet Oversight Committee on Internal Security (COCIS), direct and coordinate local and national efforts, assess the peace and development situation and evaluate the effectiveness of program coordination and integration. It is the vital link among the security, socio-economic/psychosocial, political and information entities of the government, the NGOs and local officials to enable them to mount a coherent and efficient collective effort to address internal security concerns.

It should be stressed that the ACCs are not controlled by or under the direct supervision of the Department of National Defense or the military. ACCs are managed and run by local government officials or designated crises managers.

Secretary Reyes, as vice chair of the COCIS, is fully aware of the significant function that ACCs play in making our communities stronger, less vulnerable and more prepared against threats posed by internal security problems as well as natural catastrophes. He is merely doing his job and to accuse him of using the ACCs to advance his political ambitions is unreasonable and uncalled for.

—LT. COL. DANILO M. SERVANDO
(GSC) PA, chief,
Office for Public Affairs,
Department of National Defense,
DND Building,
Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo,
Quezon City

Holidays can be time well spent

I AM reacting to the letter of Rudy Coronel, entitled "The hypocrisy in Proclamaiton No. 354."

Special days-off officially declared are spent at the discretion or according to the inclination of each Filipino, whether it is for purely spiritual endeavors, family get-togethers, to unwind or to relax, missions or ministry work or even adding to the traffic jam on the highways. One has to be family-oriented to understand these Filipino ways and not to scoff at our cherished holidays.

If we are to measure days as work hours, special holidays would be a loss for some or even to many, but time spent with family, friends and even officemates is priceless. We all just have to spend the time well.

—TIM GARCIA,
HDLC Homes, Marikina City

SARS in the Philippines

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

WHO will lead the world in fighting Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)? Just like AIDS, probably the World Health Organization (WHO) and America where the Center for Disease Control (CDC) operates in Atlanta, Georgia, will lead the fight. Coordinating with the WHO and other health agencies worldwide, the CDC works round the clock to map out prevention, control, diagnosis and cure for SARS—all for the benefit of humanity. Something we must all be thankful about.

Afterthought: Let us honestly look at America's role in our lives. She is a devil for many people, but she might be one of the few good devils around in times of difficulty and pestilence.—**PT**

* * *

A few days ago, President Macapagal-Arroyo scared many people when she revealed that there was a probable SARS case (a German) here in our country. But several seconds after her revelation, she concluded we are now "again SARS-free." In the first place, that German only had the flu, not SARS, so I felt disappointed when she leaked that irrelevant news item. She already knew it was not a SARS case, so why did she have to "leak" it to the public? That was not news, but scary entertainment.—**Polo**

* * *

That disclosure was done in the interest of transparency. Any probable or confirmed SARS case must be reported, and to withhold critical information such as that case would be irresponsible and might endanger public health.—**phval**

* * *

Maintaining the Philippines SARS-free is not only a test for the Department of Health, but a gift for our long-suffering culture. This will translate into an economic boom, but the herculean task of keeping the country "clean" lies not only with our leaders but also with our people as well as the sacrifice of our overseas Filipino workers.—**benjietom**

* * *

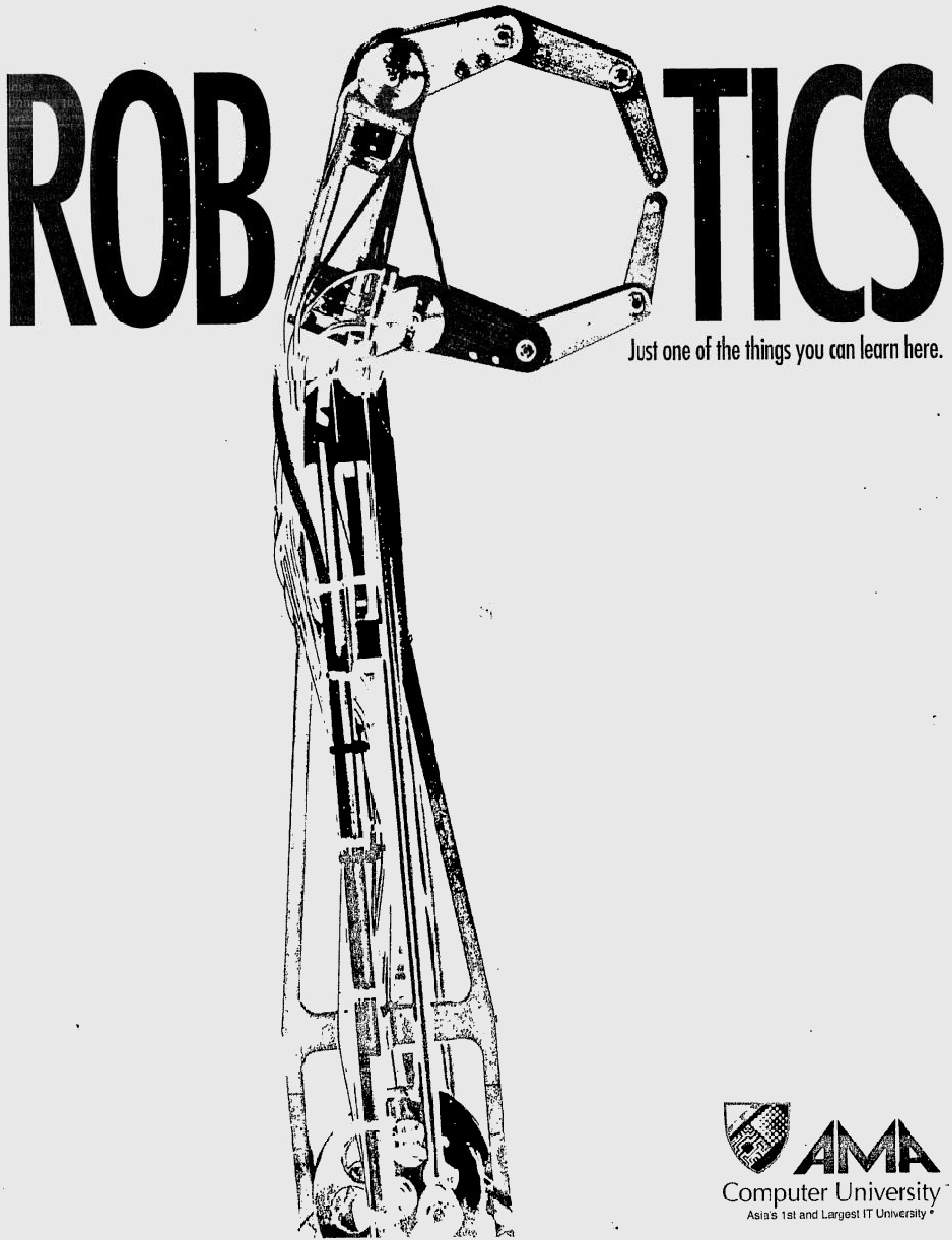
The behavior of the Filipina from Canada who went around so many places before she died of the disease is unfortunate. The over 2,000 Filipinos who came within her reach are potential habitats of SARS at this time. Quarantine is very difficult to achieve for these people.—**PT**

* * *

Health professionals will ultimately be among the high-risk carriers if SARS is not contained. I hope and pray it will be contained.

On a limited scale, this has been shown by fearful reactions toward some health practitioners who work with SARS patients. An unfortunate situation. I dread the day when health workers might abandon their jobs and miss out on their duties to quarantine themselves because of the disease. This can pose a logistical nightmare in our health system if the disease is not promptly controlled. The outlook is more serious in countries with few resources to effectively fight the disease.

On a personal note, a dentist I know in New York opted to temporarily stop working for three months after a bout of community-acquired flu. She is now well at home. Without any sign or symptom of SARS, she regretted her officemates' expressed paranoia that she had SARS (not to mention her losses in earnings from the job). This illustrates that even health workers are not immune to the fear and susceptibility [illegible]


ROB
TICS
Just one of the things you can learn here.

AMA Computer University
Asia's 1st and Largest IT University

Registration ongoing for school year 2003-2004. For inquiries on entrance exam and enrollment schedules, you may call any campus today.

NCR: QUEZON CITY 330-0358 • MAKATI 893-7366 • EAST RIZAL 677-6559 • CALOOCAN 366-5244 • FAIRVIEW 938-9769 • LAS PIÑAS 802-0129 • PASIG 637-8041 PARAÑAQUE 829-7937 • SAN JUAN 725-4127 • STA. MESA 716-9321 **NORTH LUZON:** ANGELES (045) 322-036 • BAGUIO (074) 447-0071 • CABANATUAN (044) 600-3810 DAGUPAN (075) 515-7182 • LAOAG (077) 771-6900 • LA UNION (072) 700-4180 • MALOLOS (044) 791-7674 • OLONGAPO (047) 224-1556 • SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA (045) 961-1785 SANTIAGO (078) 682-3912 • TARLAC (045) 982-9506 • TUGUEGARAO (078) 846-4676 **SOUTH LUZON:** BATANGAS (043) 980-5578 • BIÑAN 698-6306 CALAMBA (049) 545-5412 • CAVITE (046) 416-4655 • LEGASPI (052) 480-6588 • LIPA (043) 981-3034 • LUCENA (042) 373-7130 • NAGA (054) 470-0144 STA. CRUZ (049) 808-2974 **VISAYAS:** BACOLOD (034) 433-4015 • CEBU (032) 253-046 • DUMAGUETE (035) 225-8840 • ILOILO (033) 329-5656 • TACLOBAN (053) 321-1624 **MINDANAO:** CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 857-4846 • COTABATO (064) 421-5881 • DAVAO (082) 226-2400 • GENERAL SANTOS (083) 554-5678 • ZAMBOANGA (062) 992 4643

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

US says 4 more key Iraqis in custody

WASHINGTON—Four key members of President Saddam Hussein's toppled government, including the leaders of military intelligence and the chief of air defense, have been taken into custody by the US military in Iraq, defense officials said on Wednesday.

Three of the men are part of the deck of cards listing the 55 most-wanted members of Saddam's government. The fourth was an Iraqi intelligence official who was captured in a special forces raid in Baghdad.

"They're collapsing like a house of cards," said Army Lt. Col. Tom Kurasiewicz, a Pentagon spokesperson, of the wanted officials.

A Pentagon official said US forces now have 11 of the 55 in custody, with three others dead.

Gen. Zuhayr Talib Abd al Sattar al Naqib, who headed military intelligence, surrendered voluntarily to US forces in Baghdad, a defense official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Naqib was listed as No. 21,on the US list of wanted Iraqi officials. He is the Seven of Hearts on the deck of cards.

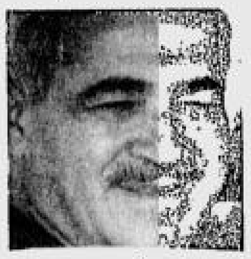
Another US official said Zuhayr was the director of the directorate of military intelligence since 2002. He was a regular Army officer, not from the Republican Guard. The directorate's responsibility was to "keep an eye on the troops, to monitor the activities of the regular army for loyalty and keeping them in line," the official said.

US Central Command also said Muzahim Sa'b Hassan al-Tikriti, Air Defense Force commander and No. 10 on the US military's list of wanted Iraqis, "is under coalition control." Central Command did not give details about his capture. He is the Queen of Diamonds in the deck of cards.

Central Command added that Muhammad Mahdi al-Salih, the Iraqi minister of trade and No. 48 on the wanted list, also is in US military custody. He is the Six of Hearts in the deck.

In addition, US special forces in the Iraqi capital captured Salim Sa'id Khalaf Al-Jumayli, the former chief of the Iraqi Intelligence Service American desk, US Central Command said.

"He is suspected of having knowledge of Iraqi Intelligence Service activities in the United States, including names of persons spying for Iraq. There was one enemy casualty and no friendly casualties," according to the statement by Central Command spokesperson Jim Wilkinson.


AL-SALIH

Naqib gave an interview to the Los Angeles Times in Baghdad before turning himself in, the newspaper reported on its Web site. It said Naqib did not apologize for his participation in Saddam's government, depicting himself as a purely military man who did his job and stayed out of politics. *Reuters*

US warns Iran: Don't interfere in Iraq affairs

WASHINGTON—The United States said Wednesday it had warned Iran against "any outside interference" in Iraq and began military patrols near the border, amid concerns that Tehran may have sent agents possible to push its brand of Islamic government.

"We have well-known channels of communication with Iran and we have made clear to Iran that we would oppose any outside interference in Iraq's road to democracy," said White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer.

"Infiltration of agents to destabilize the Shi'a population would clearly fall into that category," Fleischer said, amid media reports that Tehran had dispatched agents to shore up its interests in Iraq.

Fleischer would not explicitly confirm the reports, and dodged repeated questions on the precise nature of Washington's message to Tehran.

But US Central Command said Marines have begun patrolling stretches of the Iraqi border with Iran in order to screen border traffic for hostile infiltrators.

The patrols involve members of the 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion attached to Task Force Tarawa and have been underway in northeastern Iraq since Monday, it said.

"The patrols were designed to maintain Iraqi territorial integrity and will simultaneously assist Iraqi expatriates to return home to their loved ones as well," the command said in a statement.

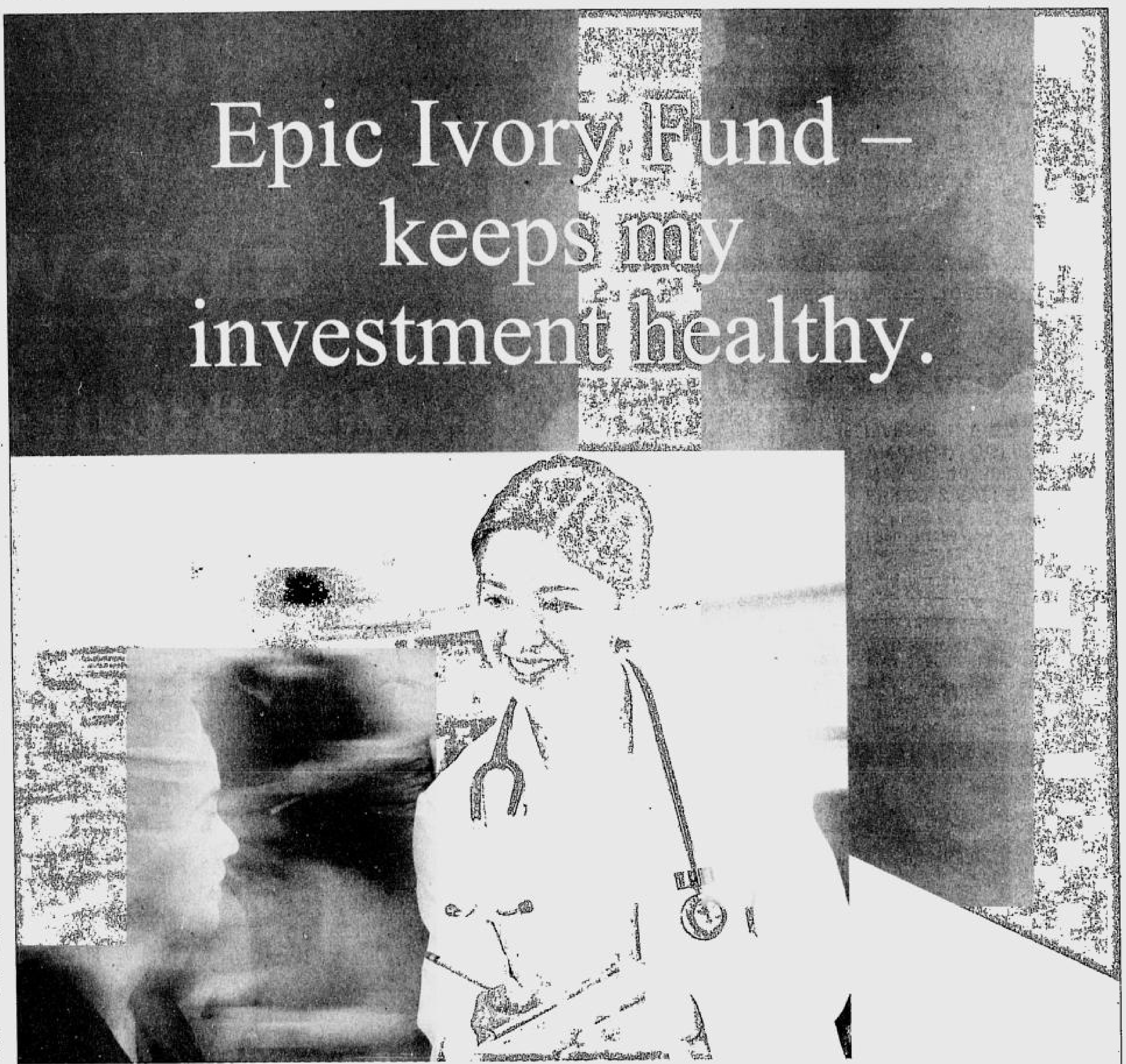
The White House rebuke recalled a similar warning in the aftermath of the US-led campaign in Afghanistan, when Washington cautioned Iran not to seek to expand its influence in eastern areas.

Earlier, The New York Times, citing US officials, reported that Iran-trained agents were crossing into southern Iraq to promote friendly Shiite clerics and possibly an Iranian model of Islamic government.

The unnamed officials told the daily that, based on intelligence reports, some agents were members of the Badr Brigade, the military wing of an Iraqi exile group operating from Iran, and irregular members of a special unit of Iran's Revolutionary Guards.

Fleischer downplayed concerns that Iran would win a warm welcome in Iraq, even though both nations have a predominantly Shiite Muslim population, because those populations are very different. *AFP*

TWO OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST POWERFUL VOICES...TOGETHER AT LAST!
MARTIN NIEVERA REGINE VELASQUEZ
LIVE! AT THE ARANETA COLISEUM
MAY 9 & 10, 2003 • 8:30PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
TICKETS AT P175 • P400
P800 • P1200 WITH LIMITED
PRIME SEATS AT P1800 AVAILABLE AT
SM TICKETNET 911-5555
MAXIMEDIA 551-7777 551-8999
(plus a 3% ticketron service charge)
WATERFRONT CEBU CITY HOTEL
MAY 2, 2003 • FRIDAY • 8:30PM
SM DEPT. STORE 231-2424/231-0627
WATERFRONT HOTEL 232-6888
GRAPHIC FX 234-048
DUNKIN DONUTS 346-7256
A very limited engagement only. Reserve your tickets now!


Epic Ivory Fund – keeps my investment healthy.

With us, your finances get the best possible care.

Epic Ivory Fund

Only ₱100,000 minimum investment

You're succeeding as a professional. It's time to make your money work harder for you. Invest it in the Equitable PCI Bank Epic Ivory Fund.

Consider its features:
- *Tax-free income at 5 years*
- *Option to build-up through periodic contributions of at least ₱5,000*
- *Free life insurance worth ₱100,000*
- *PLUS insurance cover for unpaid committed contributions*

And even working harder for you is the Equitable PCI Trust Banking Group, consistently cited by Watson Wyatt, an internationally renowned consultancy firm, as one of the best trust fund managers in the country.

Ask about the Epic Ivory Fund now and start building your wealth! Call 891-2319, 840-7671 and 750-6292 in Metro Manila; (032) 232-0320, 232-0328 and 231-0727 in Cebu; (082) 221-8959 in Davao.

Investors safeguards governed by BSP Regulations on Trust, Other Fiduciary Business and Investment Management Activities • Management fee of 1.5% per annum of the fund balance • Free life insurance apply only to qualified investors

Equitable PCI BANK
www.equitablepcib.com
84-911 (Metro Manila) or 1-800-188-84-911 (provincial)

Suicide bomber hits Israeli train station

KFAR SABA, Israel—A Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up at an Israeli train station during morning rush hour on Thursday, killing a security guard and injuring 13 people, police and medics said.

It was the first such attack inside Israel in nearly a month and came after an agreement on Wednesday on the formation of a new Palestinian cabinet, paving the way for a new US-led peace initiative which Palestinian militants fiercely oppose.

The explosion shattered plate-glass doors and sprayed blood and body parts across steps at the entrance to the station in the central Israeli town of Kfar Saba, which lies close to the dividing line between Israel and the West Bank.

In the aftermath of the blast, two women soldiers lay on a blood-drenched sidewalk outside the station as other soldiers tried to staunch their wounds. A dazed security guard stumbled down the steps, groping in pain at a swollen, bloodied eye.

Witnesses said two security guards stopped the bomber as he tried to enter the station, preventing him from reaching a platform crowded with passengers. A guard who blocked the man's path was killed along with the bomber.

Rotem Alfi, 22, an off-duty guard, said he saw a young man of "Middle Eastern appearance" wearing sunglasses and a long coat walk up to the security checkpoint and reach his hand into his pocket as if to pull out an identity card.

"He must have detonated the bomb from his pocket," Alfi said as he was treated at a local hospital. "There was a big explosion. I flew into the air and fell on the ground."

As he ran to help the injured, he realized he too had been hit. "I started feeling pain in my back, glass and nails in my skin. There were pieces of flesh on my clothes," he said.

Police said they believed the bomber was an 18-year-old from the Balata refugee camp near the West Bank city of Nablus, but there was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Palestinian militants waging a 30-month-old uprising have denounced the new cabinet under prime minister-designate Mahmoud Abbas, which was formed under intense international pressure on Palestinians to purge corruption and end attacks on Israelis.

The last suicide bombing in Israel was on March 30 when 30 people were injured in the seaside town of Netanya.

"The Kfar Saba attack is another assault on innocent Israeli civilians," said David Baker, an official in Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office. "The first item of business of the new Palestinian government should be to stop terror."

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said: "We condemn any attack on civilians, whether they are Palestinian or Israeli."

But in Gaza, Abdel-Aziz al-Rantissi, a senior official with the Islamic group Hamas, signaled that militants would keep up their attacks. "As long as there is occupation, resistance will continue," he said.

The bombing followed an agreement between Mahmoud Abbas, a prominent moderate, and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat that defused a power struggle on the formation of Abbas's cabinet.

The cabinet lineup will include some of Arafat's critics, reformists, and a powerful former Gaza security chief as sought by Washington and international mediators. It will go to the Palestinian legislature for ratification early next week.

The cabinet's confirmation was expected to trigger release of the "road map," a staged peace plan drafted by the United States, the United Nations, the European Union and Russia.

White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer said the road map would be published following the Palestinian cabinet's ratification.

The plan envisions measures that include a halt to Palestinian violence and an end to Jewish settlement building in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, paving the way for Palestinian statehood in the two territories by 2005. Israel has said it has several reservations about the plan.

Under the cabinet deal reached in Ramallah after five weeks of wrangling, Abbas will hold on to the Interior Ministry, while Mohammed Dahlan, the powerful ex-Gaza security chief, will be in charge of internal security.

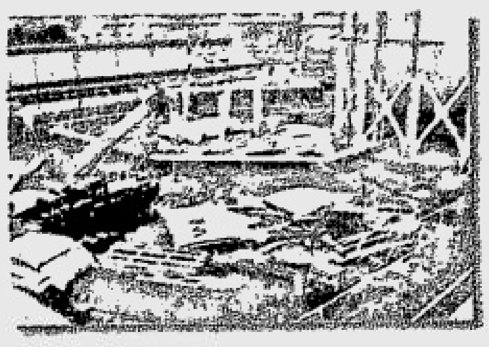
Dahlan's appointment was crucial to the cabinet, since one of the first challenges for the Abbas government will be cracking down on militants waging an uprising for independence.

Arafat was initially against granting Dahlan a cabinet post.

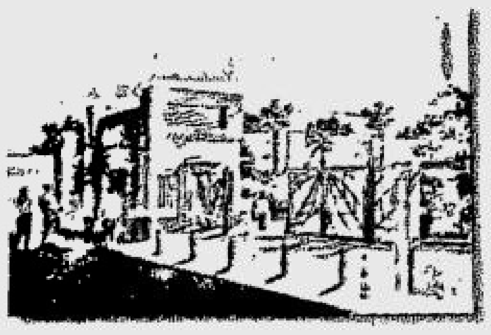
Hamas, which has spearheaded the suicide bombing campaign, said it would not be cowed by the new government.

Israel and the United States have demanded Palestinians sideline Arafat, whom they blame for much of the violence, before talks can resume. Arafat has denied the accusations. *Reuters*

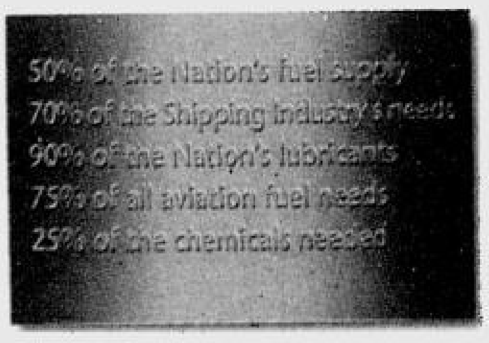
The City Of Manila deserves thanks.



Thanks for helping us make Pandacan even safer.



Thanks for helping us make Pandacan a better place in which to live.



50% of the Nation's fuel supply
70% of the Shipping Industry's needs
90% of the Nation's lubricants
75% of all aviation fuel needs
25% of the chemicals needed

Thanks for helping us supply the nation's energy needs.

PARKLAND
OPEN SPACE

Thanks for helping us create a park for all to enjoy.

What we have accomplished in the past few months is truly amazing. We have downsized operations taking 19 storage tanks out of service and 7 more by year's end. We will dismantle 2 more by 1st quarter of 2004. We have ceased LPG operations. Yet, we have continued to satisfy the country's needs for petroleum products without any interruption. We are also transforming sections bordering the terminal into a leisure park for the citizens of Pandacan to enjoy. We have helped make Pandacan a safer and more enjoyable environment in which to live. And it was all made possible because of the extraordinary show of support from our hosts in Pandacan. A place we've called "Home" for 80 years.

CALTEX PETRON

US tells France its opposition to Iraq war will have ill effects

WASHINGTON—US Secretary of State Colin Powell told his French counterpart, Dominique de Villepin, Wednesday that France's opposition to the war in Iraq will have negative and palpable consequences, the State Department said.

State Department spokesperson Richard Boucher said the phone conversation between Powell and de Villepin, visiting Amman, Jordan, as part of a Middle East tour, was "reflective of the current relationship we have with France."

He described the relationship as uneasy, saying the nations remain allies with certain shared values, but ties have been badly damaged by recent "serious and difficult" disagreements.

"Understand that we did have these disagreements, understand that they were serious and difficult and that that has consequences for the future," Boucher said.

"There is obviously an effect on the relationship, on how we look at things, how we evaluate things and how we look at things we might want to do as we move forward."

At the White House, spokesperson Ari Fleischer downplayed the idea that Washington was seeking to punish Paris but acknowledged France would feel the consequences of its anti-war stance.

"Issue by issue, different issues will arise and will be judged on the merits," he said. "And we shall see when that happens."

Neither Fleischer nor Boucher would say what measures Washington would take. Senior State Department officials earlier said Powell was not in a position to tell de Villepin exactly what they would be.

But those officials said steps under consideration included sidelining France at Nato and excluding Paris or limiting its presence at US-sponsored and -hosted international forums.

One possibility would be to expand the so-called informal "quad" grouping of Nato's biggest and most influential members—Britain, France, Germany and the United States—to include Italy, Poland and Spain, they said.

The quad is widely believed to be a major force in shaping Nato policy but it activities are kept low-key so as not to offend other alliance members.

So the first public manifestation of the measures will likely be at Nato, where one official said Washington might bypass the alliance's traditional governing body, the North Atlantic Council, in favor of the Defense Planning Committee, from which France resigned in 1966. *AFP*

No new shuttle flights until 2004, Nasa says

WASHINGTON—US space shuttles will remain grounded because of the Columbia disaster until at least the start of 2004, Nasa said Wednesday.

The announcement was made as the head of the shuttle program Ron Dittemore resigned from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa), though he insisted he had planned to quit before shuttle disintegrated on reentry Feb. 1, killing all seven crew on board.

"I think flying within a year of the event is possible," said Michael Kostelnik, Nasa's deputy associate administrator for the shuttle program.

"Will it be likely or not, we'll have to wait and see what the board determines to be the cause, and the recommendations they make," he said.

Concern has been expressed that a prolonged suspension of the shuttle flights could affect the orbiting International Space Station (ISS).

"If we are able to return to flight in the January, February, March time frame, which hopefully is possible, that would take a lot of pressure off having to resupply" the ISS, the Nasa administrator said.

Kostelnik's estimate of when flights could resume was more conservative than one last month in which he spoke of flights by the end of the year, but which he retracted last week. *AFP*

Nokor tells US: Change hostile policy

BEIJING/SEOUL—North Korea said on Thursday the key to nuclear talks in Beijing with the United States would be Washington's willingness to change what Pyongyang sees as a hostile policy toward the communist state.

The statement carried on the official KCNA news agency came as US and North Korean negotiators headed into a second day of talks on Thursday aimed at defusing mounting tensions over Pyongyang's suspected nuclear weapons program.

In the first North Korean report on the talks, KCNA said the United States had used verification about weapons in Iraq as a pretext to start the US-led war that ousted President Saddam Hussein.

The KCNA report, clearly a reflection of Pyongyang's official view, said the United States should renounce its "hostile" intent before there could be discussions about dismantling the North's suspected nuclear weapons program and verification.

US Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly made no comment as he left his Beijing hotel for the talks, maintaining a wall of official silence that has surrounded the first formal negotiations between the United States and North Korea since the crisis erupted in October.

Few expect a breakthrough from the talks, which opened on Wednesday at the invitation of China, with the ultimate outcome likely to be a pledge for more talks.

The KCNA report, echoing the North Korean Foreign Ministry's stance about the talks, said Washington should "make a bold switchover" in its "hostile policy" and "prove it in practice."

"This is the master key to making the talks fruitful to satisfy the expectation and concern of the international community."

KCNA said relations between Washington and Pyongyang had "hit rock-bottom" after US President George W. Bush described the North as part of an "axis of evil" along with Iran and pre-war Iraq for trying to develop weapons of mass destruction and proliferate them.

Participants in the talks in Beijing gave no details of Wednesday's talks, but South Korean newspapers gave some insights from diplomatic sources.

The leading newspaper Chosun Ilbo quoted diplomatic sources as saying Kelly had demanded North Korea dismantle its nuclear development plans "in a verifiable and irreversible way."

The daily said North Korean negotiator Li Gun had said: "The lesson from the Iraq war is that we need to sign a nonaggression treaty to dispel worries about security." *Reuters*

Rebuilding Iraq to cost lower than expected

WASHINGTON—It will cost billions of dollars to occupy Iraq, rebuild its infrastructure and feed its people, but US experts see lower spending than expected because of the short war and minimal damage to Iraqi oilfields.

Defense and budget analysts agree the price tag for Iraqi reconstruction may well be at the lower end of estimates ranging from $50 billion to over $400 billion in coming years.

The final bill depends on many variables, including how many peacekeeping troops stay in Iraq and for how long; better assessments of infrastructure damages; post-war security; and Iraqi resistance to foreign occupying troops.

"I think you're looking at $20 billion to $30 billion a year for at least five years," said Keith Ashdown, defense analyst with Taxpayers for Common Sense, an independent think tank. "It's pretty much a good news story."

The United States will likely bear the brunt of the military costs, given its leading role in the war, and most of the initial reconstruction expenses. Beyond that, much will depend on US efforts to persuade other nations to contribute to the reconstruction effort and provide peacekeeping forces.

Japan and Canada have pledged $100 million and $65 million in aid, respectively, and Italy offered to send up to 3,000 troops to help in humanitarian work. *Reuters*

Ang load mo, puwedeng maging negosyo

sa TALK 'N TEXT

Lucky Load Laki Negosyo

Tin-Tin's sari-sari store
20 Pedicabs
10 Tricycles
15 Sari-Sari Store Showcases
Toyota Revo

Actual prizes may vary from the items featured.

Mag-load lang at mag-register at puwede kang manalo ng big-time na pang-negosyo!

Here's how to join:

To register:

REG 12345678910111
Maan Rivera 12 Santan
St. DRBS Sucat, Munt.

- Type REG <14-digit card number> <name> <address>

211

And send to 211.

Note: For succeeding re-loads, just text the 14-digit card number to 211 to get raffle entries. Every successful message sent costs P2.50.

- Number of entries will be based on the card value loaded. The more prepaid cards you load, the more entries you get and the higher your chances of winning!

CARD/AIRTIME VALUE	NO. OF ENTRIES
PureText 100	1
P300	3
P500	5
P1000	10

RAFFLE DRAWS

- All draws will be conducted at 4:00pm at the 11th floor, Rufino Tower, Ayala Avenue, Makati City using a computer-generated system under the supervision of a DTI Representative together with Talk 'N Text Marketing, its advertising agency, and SMART IT Group.
- You can only win once throughout the promo period.
- You will receive a text message confirming that you are included in the raffle. Your raffle number is also included in the text message.
- Winners will be electronically drawn and notified via a congratulatory text message, a voice call to their Talk 'N Text mobile number and registered mail.

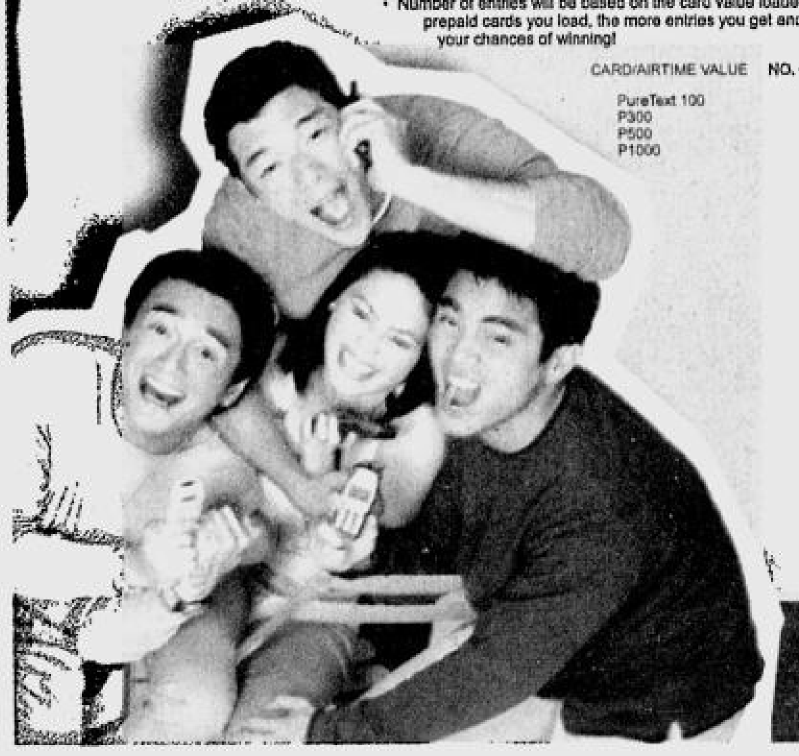
WINNERS

- Announcement of winners will be published in at least one (1) major broadsheet.
- Winners of Pedicabs, Tricycles and Toyota Revo may claim their prizes at the Fleet Center of SMART Communications, Ayala Avenue, Makati City.
- Winners of Sari-Sari Store Showcases may claim their prize packages at the nearest SM Supermarket specified by them.
- To claim their prizes, winners must present their active Talk 'N Text cellphone with their SIM number, congratulatory text message, and any valid ID with photo.
- Prizes not claimed after 60 days from date of notification will be forfeited in favor of Talk 'N Text Wireless Marketing with prior approval of DTI.
- Piltel shall shoulder the 20% TAX for prizes exceeding ten thousand pesos.
- Prizes are not convertible to cash.
- You may inquire on the number of raffle entries you have accumulated by calling Customer Care Hotline at *888 (cellphone) or 888-1111 (landline). Entries earned between12 midnight to 11:59pm of the previous day shall be issued raffle entries at 3pm the next day.
- All employees of SMART Communications, Inc., Pilipino Telephone Corporation, and their advertising agency and relatives up to second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from the promo.

Promo period is from April 25 to June 19, 2003.

Period covered	RAFFLE DRAWS	PRIZES	NO. OF WINNERS
April 25 - May 8	DRAW 1 May 14, 2003	Pedicab	20
April 25 - May 22	DRAW 2 May 28, 2003	Sari-Sari Store Showcase	15
April 25 - June 5	DRAW 3 June 11, 2003	Tricycle Jianshe Model XVR	10
April 25 - June 19	GRAND DRAW June 25, 2003	Toyota Revo De Luxe	1

JIANSHE Motortrade Per DTI-NCR permit no. 0779, series of 2003.



Yan ang galing without overspending!

SMART

AIWA SOUND BITES!

Buy an AIWA now and get FREE bites at TOKYO TOKYO

Here's how:

1. Purchase any of these AIWA products to get an AIWA voucher worth P500.00:
   Mini Compo: NSX-R10, NSX-RV15, NSX-RV25, NSX-RV35, NSX-RV75, NSX-RV85, NSX-TRV77, XS-V30, XH-DT8, XR-DVH2450, XR-DV525, XR-DV826
   Home Theater: HT-DV90
   Micro Component: XR-EMV35
   Television: TV-F2500
2. Present the AIWA voucher to the participating Tokyo-Tokyo branches with the following documents: AIWA Warranty card (customer portion; original and 1 photocopy) and Dealer Sales Invoice (original and 1 photocopy). Photocopied Warranty Card and Invoice shall be surrendered to Tokyo-Tokyo together with AIWA voucher.
3. Upon verification, P500 worth of gift check will be issued which may be redeemed/used immediately. Gift checks are valid until December 31, 2003.
4. Last day of redemption is on July 15, 2003.
5. Gift Checks are not convertible to cash.

Participating TOKYO-TOKYO Branches:
Eastwood Citywalk • Glorietta 2 • Greenbelt • Greenhills • Harrison Plaza • Robinson's Metro East • Robinson's Place Ermita • Rockwell • Shangri-la Plaza • SM Bicutan • SM Centerpoint • SM Fairview • SM Manila • SM Megamall • SM North Edsa 1 • SM North Edsa 2 • SM Pampanga • SM Sucat • Sta. Lucia East • Tutuban Centermall

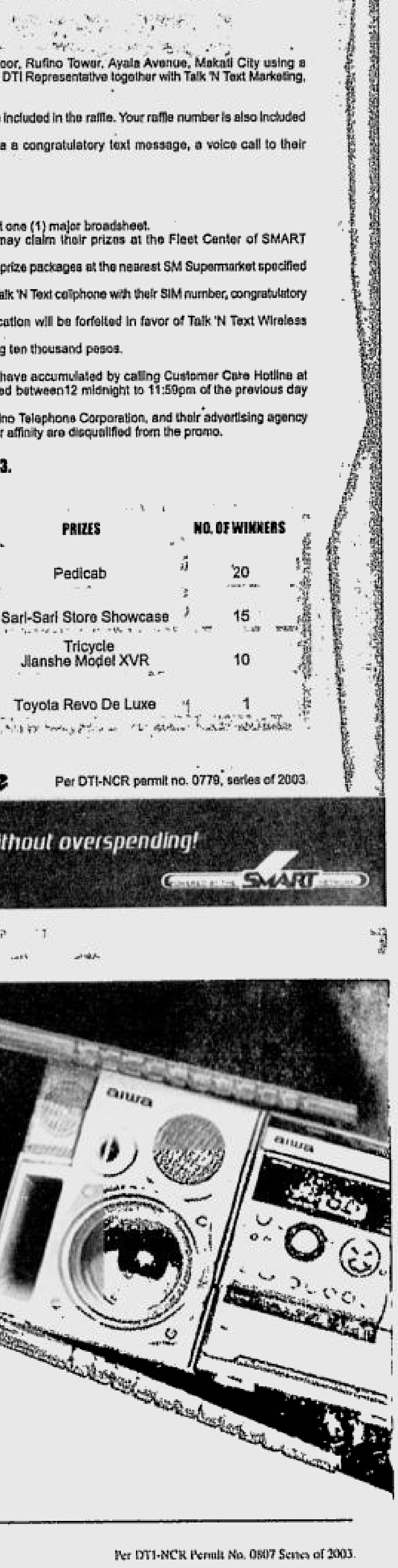
Participating AIWA Dealer Outlets in Metro Manila, Pampanga and Cavite:
Abenson • Anson s • Automatic • AV Surfer • Best Brands • Cali, Inc. • R-Abenson • SM Appliance Center • Sogo • Waltermart • Western

Offer good from April 15, 2003 to May 15, 2003 in Metro Manila, Cavite and Pampanga only.

aiwa *Distributed by SOLID DISTRIBUTORS, INC. 2/F Solid House Bldg. 2285 Don Chino Roces Ext. Makati City. For product or promo inquiries please call 843-1541 to 48 loc. 104 or email us at aiwagold@mail.sen.com.ph For service information, please call 456-8888 or email customercare@solidservice.com.ph Insist on an AIWA Official Warranty*

TOKYO TOKYO

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0807 Series of 2003.



NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: pdiminda@dv.webling.com

Probable SARS case in E. Samar probed

By Joey A. Gabieta, *PDI Visayas Bureau*

TACLOBAN CITY—A domestic helper from a coastal town in Eastern Samar has exhibited symptoms of the dreaded Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), days after she arrived from Hong Kong.

Ligaya Anacta-Acosta, Department of Health information officer for Eastern Visayas, said she had sent a team from her office to fetch the 41-year-old woman from her hometown in Maydolong, 224 km east of here.

Karina (not her real name) will be confined in one of the isolation rooms of the government-run Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC) here, which has been designated as SARS center by the health department.

Dr. Roberto Aniceto of the EVRMC said blood samples and fluids would be taken from Karina, which would be sent to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) for confirmatory tests.

He said this would be considered a "probable SARS case," pending the release of the laboratory results.

Acosta said they learned about Karina's case from the Provincial Health Office of Eastern Samar.

Based on the information relayed to their office, Acosta said Karina arrived at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport from Hong Kong on April 9. She said Karina might have stayed in Manila for a few days because she reportedly arrived in Maydolong only last April 12.

"And according to our information, she went to our (Eastern Samar) provincial hospital last April 14 for a medical check-up and it was there that she was discovered to have exhibited pneumonia," Acosta said.

Based on Karina's x-ray results, Acosta said Karina developed atypical pneumonia and a fever reaching 39.6 degrees.

"We can say that she is a probable SARS victim. We based our conclusions on two things. She came from Hong Kong, an area where SARS cases is so widespread and where she could have made contacts with persons suffering from SARS. And two, she developed pneumonia and high fever, two of the signs and symptoms of SARS," Acosta explained.

Expected

She said Dr. Nicolas Bautista, chief epidemiologist of the DOH-8 and Boyd Cerro, regional sentinel nurse, left for Maydolong yesterday to fetch Karina and bring her to the EVRMC. They are expected to arrive here today.

Acosta said the two were each given protective gears like the N95 mask and goggles before leaving for Maydolong.

She said she could not say if the area where the woman lives would be placed in a quarantine as she would wait first for Bautista's recommendation.

Acosta said Bautista's group would also conduct "contact tracing" in Maydolong to determine who and how many persons Karina was in contact with since she arrived from Manila so they, too, would be checked for symptoms of SARS.

Dr. Adelaida Asperin, EVRMC chief of hospital, said a different entry and exit points have been set up in the hospital, which would be used exclusively by SARS patients.

Suspected SARS patients would enter in a small stainless gate, a few meters away from isolation rooms that are located in the annex building of the EVRMC.

Starting yesterday, all hospital staff members and personnel would be required to wear protective masks. Visitors and in some cases, the patients, might be required to wear protective masks too.

But the report that Karina would be confined at the EVRMC, the biggest hospital in Eastern Visayas, did not sit well with Leyte Gov. Remedios Petilla.

Asperin said she received a call from Petilla, asking her not to accept the probable SARS victim.

The governor wanted her confined at the provincial hospital in Borongan, 196 km from here.

Ilocos provinces seek SARS funds

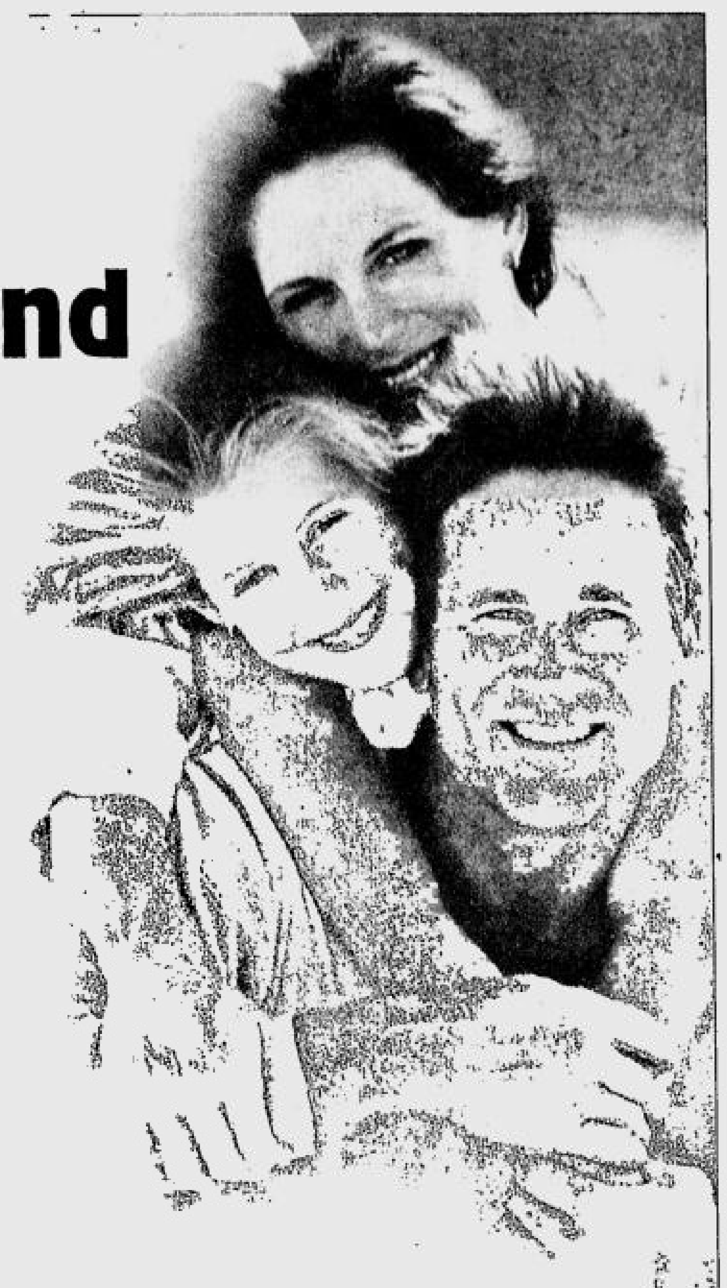
SAN FERNANDO CITY—Various health units in Ilocos Norte and Pangasinan have yet to receive the funds promised by the government for the conversion of their facilities into isolation rooms for suspected Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome patients.

This situation arose as the need for "technical quarantine" or the isolation of large groups of possibly SARS-infected persons loomed in the Ilocos region after the death of nursing aide Adela Catalon of Alcala, Pangasinan, from probable SARS.

Dr. Eduardo Janairo, regional director of the Department of Health, said the Mariano Marcos Hospital in Batac, Ilocos Norte, needed about P1.7 million for the construction of a technical quarantine facility. *Gia Damaso-Dumo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

It's N new life

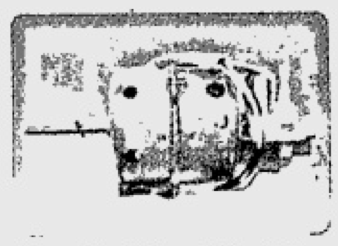
Power, Durability And Design. Blown by Every TWISTER.



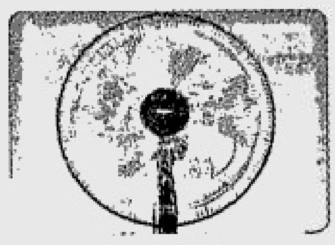
Be in full swing with a twist of total comfort.
All with the complete line of **National Twister Electric Fan.**
Now, you can breathe an air of Optimum Power,
Unmatched Durability and Elegant Design in all directions.

National Twister Electric Fan.
It's N new ease of complete innovation.

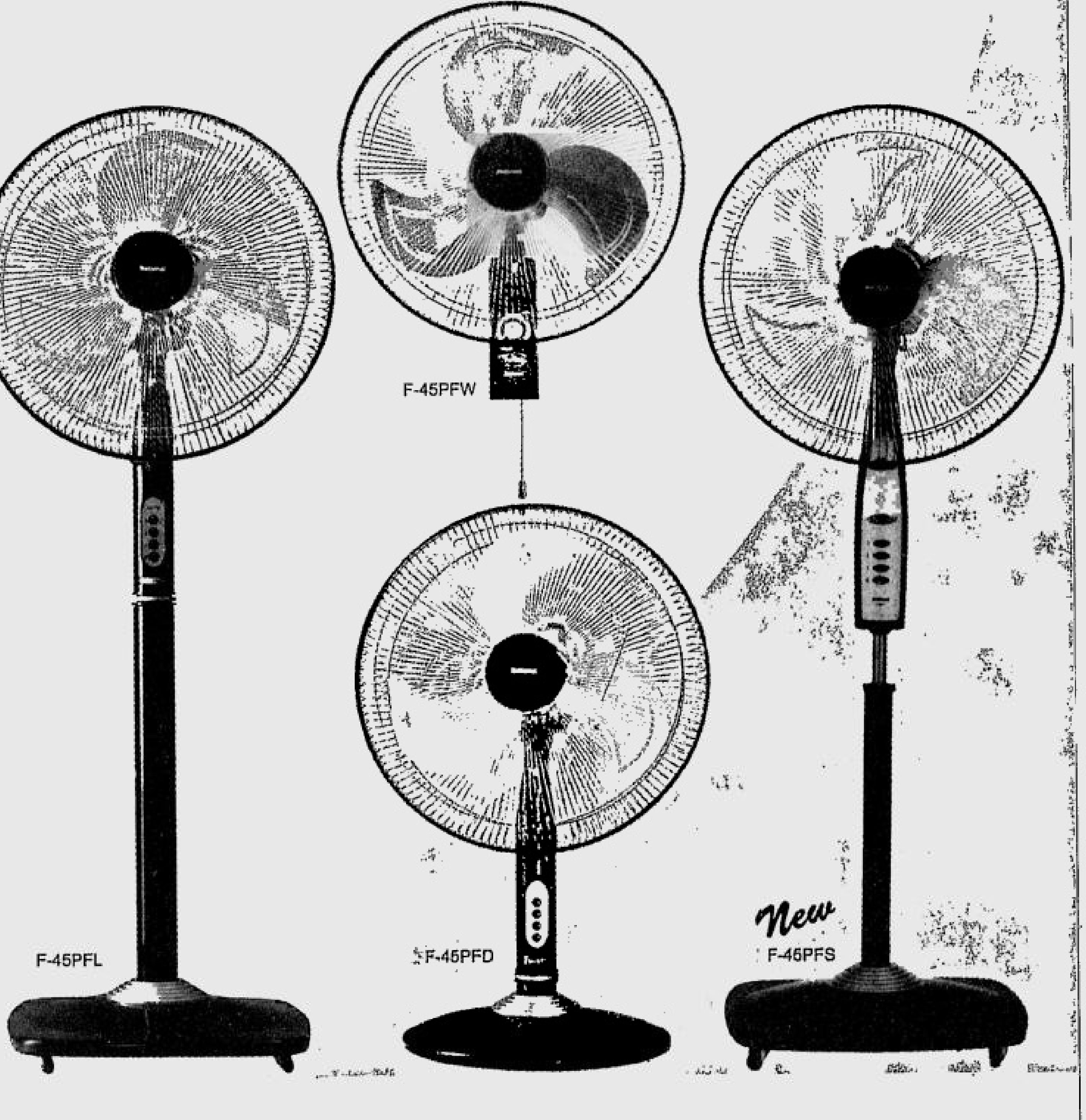
Built-in Thermal Fuse
Blows away overheating hazards.



Durable Matsushita Motor
Sustains force of maximum power for years.



Spoke Wire
Gives an air of safety for your children with its 136 spoke wires.



National

National
Electric Fan

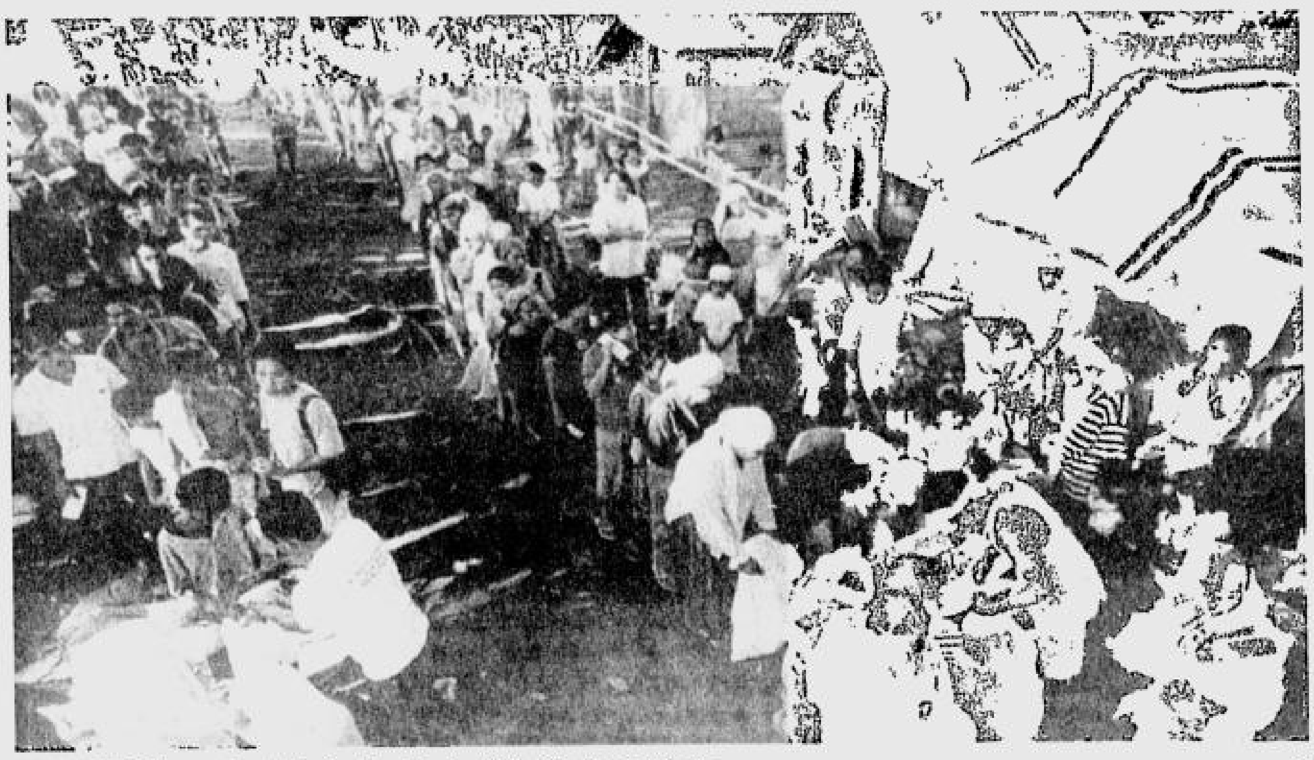
FREE
Vacuum Pillow
for every purchase of any **National** electric fan*

*except ventilating fan

MECHANICS:
1. This nationwide promo is open to all buyers of any model and all sizes of National Electric Fan (except Ventilating Fans) from April 1 to May 31, 2003.
2. For every purchase of any National electric fan, buyers are entitled to one specially designed Vacuum Pillow.
3. Premium items will be given immediately upon purchase.
4. Premium items are non-convertible to cash.

PROMO PERIOD: April 1 to May 31, 2003

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0527, Series of 2003.



EVACUEES line up for their food ration in Pikit, North Cotabato. AP

Moro women march for peace, dev't in Marawi

By Grace Cantal-Albasin and Jeffrey Maningo, *PDI Mindanao Bureau*

MARAWI CITY—Not minding the distance from their places of origin and the hazards of travel, Moro women belonging to different indigenous tribes in Mindanao gathered at the People's Park in Barangay Sabir here to attend the 1st Bangsamoro Women Assembly.

The secretariat recorded about 20,000 participants, including the Iranun, Yakan, Samal, Maranao, Maguindanao, Ips and Tausug women from as far as Tawi-Tawi who built makeshift shelter at the park.

Prof. Abhoud Syed Lingga, chair of the Bangsamoro People's Consultative Assembly, described the event as a historic gathering of women.

"I could not remember any women gathering as huge as this crowd where the Moro women took care of everything from the security to billeting. We (the men) felt our presence was purely on the maintenance and technical aspects as we ran errands for them," Lingga said.

Maulana Alonto, vice chair of the Bangsamoro Development Agency, said the gathering showed the Moro women's political maturity as they were now very willing to express themselves for the good of the Bangsamoro homeland.

For Anisa Taha, representative of the Moro women in Maguindanao, the assembly might not get what it desired for the Bangsamoro homeland but they would endlessly repeat this gathering to attain the peace.

"We strongly and always believed that these wars and conflicts whether global or domestic could be solved in peaceful dialogues through a United Nations-supervised referendum in Bangsamoro areas for us to be given the opportunity to determine our political status whether to remain part of the Philippines or to be independent," Ustaza Saguira Pendaliday, chair of the assembly, said.

The gathering culminated with a "march towards peace and development," which coincided with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels' attacks in Maigo, Lanao del Norte.

"We don't have any idea why these (attacks) happened," said Cabaybay Abubakar, one of the organizers.

"But I hope that the MILF and the government will stop the fighting. We can talk things over. They should not fight over Mindanao, because it is rich in resources enough for the Muslims and the Christians," she said.

The resolutions drafted by the delegates will be presented to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Pikit evacuation deaths now 46

PIKIT, North Cotabato—The death toll in various evacuation centers here has continued to increase as their sanitary conditions have deteriorated, a government relief agency said.

Since Feb. 11, when the exodus of Moro farmers from the town's far-flung villages started, a total of 46 deaths have been reported, according to Hadja Soraida Tanggol Taha, social welfare director for Central Mindanao.

Citing reports from social workers, Taha said most of the reported deaths were due to various illnesses brought about by difficult conditions in the refugee sites.

The leading causes of deaths have been measles and diarrhea. The youngest fatality was a month-old baby while the oldest was 70 years old.

The Department of Health regional office and the municipal health office have intensified their vaccination activities. Reports, however, surfaced that the women preferred not to have their children undergo preventive medication.

Fr. Bert Layson, the town's parish priest, said the entry of foreign non-government organizations was of great help in addressing the health needs of the children evacuees.

Layson said the declaration of a cessation of hostilities and the immediate return of the evacuees to their communities would help prevent more deaths.

"Day by day, the condition in refugee sites gets harder," Layson said.

Latest DSWD reports showed that only about 7,000 families had remained in the evacuation centers scattered all over the town center. *Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Europe's No. 1 Steel Pressed Bathtub Now In The Philippines

KALDEWEI
Made in Germany

KALDEWEI
Europe's No. 1 manufacturer of steel enamelled bathtubs is pleased to announce Dexterton as its sole agent for its products in the Philippines.

STEEL
2.3mm
ENAMEL

Available Size:

170 x 70 cm	P 5,700.00
150 x 70 cm	P 5,050.00

Other sizes are also available by special order.

DEXTERTON CORPORATION
Sole Agent: 157 Sgt. E. Rivera St., (Near Damar Village) Quezon City
Tel.: 362-1111 ; 361-6006
Fax No. 362-0524
E-mail: dexterton@dexterton.com
www.dexterton.com

Noritake
The Finest Name in Chinaware

Bodega Sale
• of factory seconds •

April 26 - May 18, 2003
Open daily from 9am - 4pm

3 Salad Plates *Free*
for a min. Php 2,000.00 worth of purchase.
(in a single receipt)

Up to 60% off on selected items!

CASH BASIS ONLY
Per DTI-NCR Permit #A3-260 Series of 2003

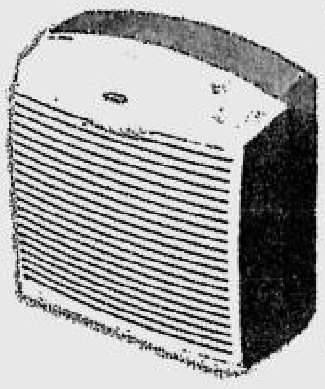
To be held at:
Ceram Trading, Inc. c/o Noritake PMI Compound, J.P. Rizal St. Concepcion, Marikina City
Tel. Nos. 948-4876 • 941-6829 • 942-1185

CONCEPCION MARKET
PALIPAKAN
Iglesia ni Kristo
MARIKINA CITY
NPMI
Noritake Porcelana
PETRON
Roosevelt College
J.P. RIZAL ST
Ateneo
CUBAO

BREATHE CERTIFIED CLEAN AIR WITH AN AIR PURIFIER

Prevent Catching Airborne Diseases!

Carrier
31CSA1203D



- HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) Filter able to retain particles larger than 0.3 micron
- Developed to deliver 5 ACH (air change/hour)
- "Pure Check" microprocessor indicating light, that reminds you to check your filter near replacement time.
- Recommended for 16sqm^2 room area
- Has 2 step filter process: capture larger particles with carbon-activated pre-filter then HEPA filter for microscopic particles.

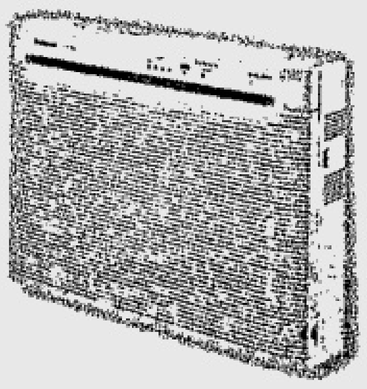
CASH ᴾ9000
P 527.10/mo.
For 24 months using Citibank

Whirlpool HOME APPLIANCES
5EAP

- Exclusively has Filtrete™ True HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) Filter for 3M™
- Captures 99.97% of airborne particles
- Captures as small as 0.3 micron from air passing through the filter, such as cigarette smoke
- Captures: smoke, dust, pet dander, pollen, mold spores and fabric fibers

CASH ᴾ11970
P 701.05/mo.
For 24 months using Citibank

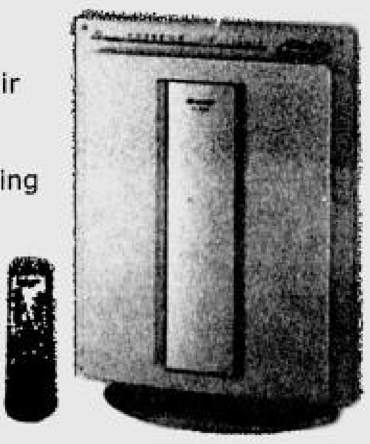
National
F-04PHX1



- HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter captures 99.97% of 0.3 micron particles
- Capture 99.99% of 0.01 micron particles
- Catechin filter can inactivate virus promotion and is able to eliminate airborne particles
- Odorex deodorizing filter
- Air quality monitor
- Recommended for 22-23 M^2 area.
- Filter check function to remind you when to change the filter

CASH ᴾ9900
P 579.81/mo.
For 24 months using Citibank

SHARP
FU-40SE-S



- Anti-Bacteria Apatite HEPA filter cleans air from dust, pollen, molds, dead ticks and pet odors
- PLASMA cluster ion shower reduces floating molds and spores in the air
- Reduces odor causing molecules
- Refreshes the air
- Switch to special modes for smoke and pollen removal

CASH ᴾ18498
P 1083.37/mo.
For 24 months using Citibank

AIR PURIFIERS ARE IDEAL FOR:

Offices
Homes
Schools
Restaurant
Hospital
Theater
Factory
Malls (stores)

AVAILABLE AT

ABENSON

WALTERMART CALAMBA
Tel. (049) 545-7035

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA
Tels. 638-8011 to 19

ALABANG
Tels. 850-8848 to 50

SM CITY CARPARK
Tels. 920-9151 to 53/ 926-8829

STA. LUCIA 3 CAINTA
Tels. 681-5301

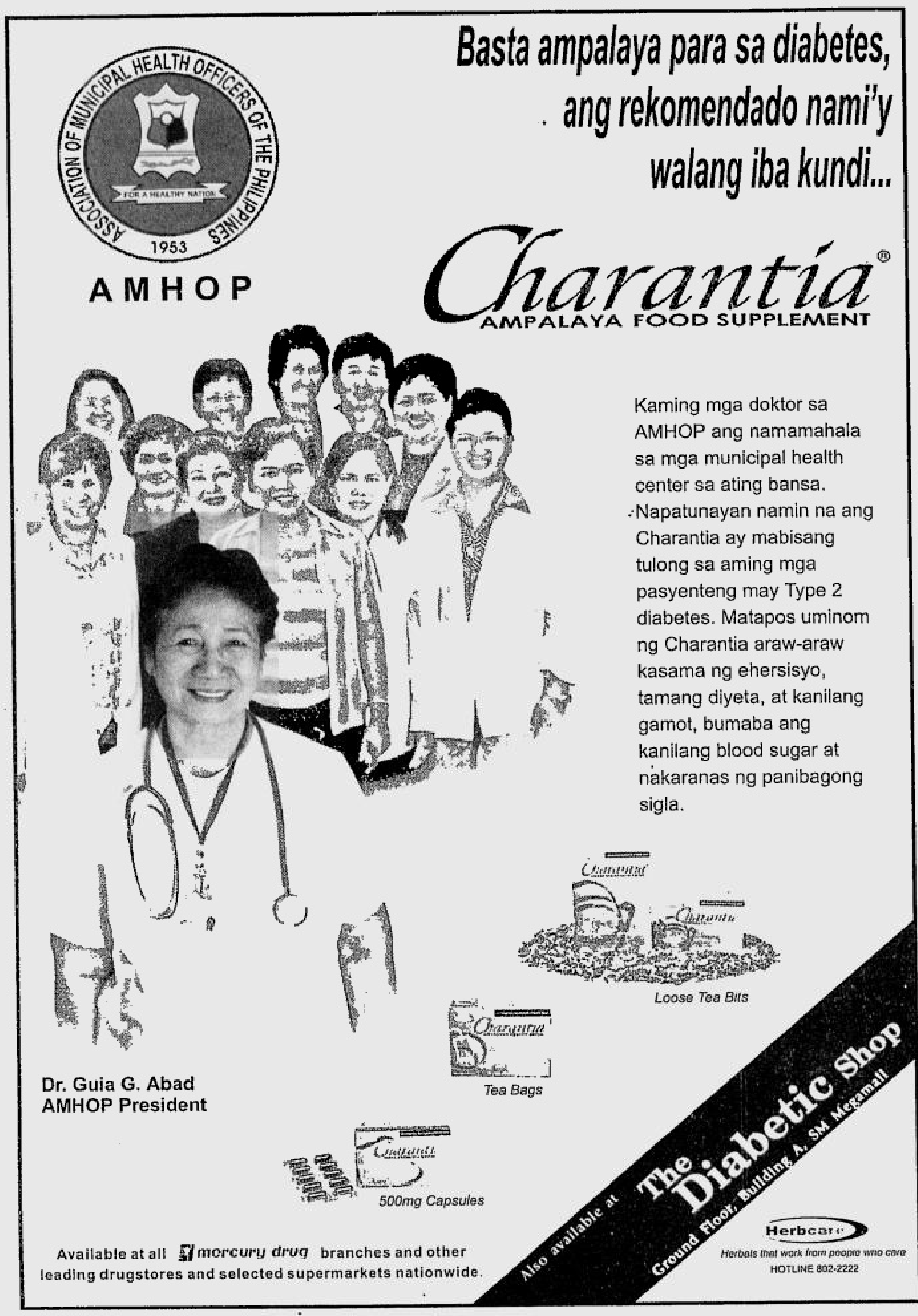
HARRISON PLAZA
Tels. 521-8568 / 69

GREENHILLS UNIMART
Tels. 721-0590 / 54

ROBINSONS ERMITA
Tels. 536-8029/ 536-7917

GLORIETTA 1
Tel. 816-3991

ST. FRANCIS SQUARE
Tel. 633-1362 to 64
NOW OPEN



Basta ampalaya para sa diabetes, ang rekomendado nami'y walang iba kundi...

ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOR A HEALTHY NATION
1953
AMHOP

Charantia®
AMPALAYA FOOD SUPPLEMENT

Kaming mga doktor sa AMHOP ang namamahala sa mga municipal health center sa ating bansa. Napatunayan namin na ang Charantia ay mabisang tulong sa aming mga pasyenteng may Type 2 diabetes. Matapos uminom ng Charantia araw-araw kasama ng ehersisyo, tamang diyeta, at kanilang gamot, bumaba ang kanilang blood sugar at nakaranas ng panibagong sigla.

Dr. Guia G. Abad
AMHOP President

Loose Tea Bits

Tea Bags

500mg Capsules

Available at all mercury drug branches and other leading drugstores and selected supermarkets nationwide.

Also available at The Diabetic Shop Ground Floor, Building A, SM Megamall

Herbcare
Herbals that work from people who care
HOTLINE 802-2222

RPA-ABB rebel killed, 3 captured in N. Ecija

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—A member of the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) was killed while three others were captured on Wednesday when they fought with policemen and Army soldiers in Zaragoza, Nueva Ecija, reports here said.

Miguel Guevarra, spokesperson of the RPA-ABB Luzon command, on Thursday confirmed the death of Miguel de la Cruz, alias Ka Eagle. Guevarra did not identify the three RPA-ABB members captured by government soldiers.

But in a report here Senior Supt. Luis Palmera, Nueva Ecija police director, identified the captured rebels as Raymond Tolentino, 22; Joebert Dual, 19; and Jong Francisco, 19.

Guevarra disputed the claim of Army and police officials that government troops encountered RPA-ABB rebels at Sitio Pugo in Barangay Sta. Lucia Young in Zaragoza. He said their unit was ambushed.

Last year, the RPA-ABB signed a preliminary peace talks agreement with the government.

Guevarra said the incident would have implications on the peace pact, but he did not elaborate.

While Guevarra had admitted that those killed and captured were his comrades, Maj. Gen. Alberto Braganza, chief of the Army's 7th Division, claimed that the four men belonged to the Red Vigilante Group.

The RVG, Braganza said, was a criminal group tagged as brains behind a string of killings in Nueva Ecija since 1998.

RVG leader Ric Peralta said his group, composed of former New People's Army rebels, had executed only drug traders and criminals.

Col. Jovenal Narcise, commander of the 702nd Infantry Brigade that supervises the 71st Infantry Battalion involved in the encounter, said the four men were members of the RHB-ABB-RVG.

The RHB or the Rebolusyonaryong Hukbong Bayan is a rival faction of the NPA. It denied having ties with the RPA-ABB or RVG.

Narcise said a policeman, identified as SPO3 Rocco Matic, was wounded during the encounter that began at the boundary of San Leonardo town on Wednesday noon and ended before 4 p.m. in the nearby town of Zaragoza.

Narcise said the suspects, possibly led by Peralta, fled aboard a white Ford Expedition. The car was seen speeding toward Bulacan, he said.

The Army reported seizing four M-16 rifles, an M-14 rifle and two baby Armalite rifles. *Tonette Orejas and Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

NPA recruitment plan bared

LEGAZPI CITY—Maj. Gen. Alfonso Dagudag, newly installed head of the Southern Luzon Unified Command, has warned against the "massive recruitment" being conducted by New People's Army fronts in Southern Luzon.

Citing military intelligence reports, Dagudag said the communist-led NPA was especially targeting teenagers in provinces in Southern Tagalog and Bicol.

He advised the people not to believe in the "propaganda and other colorful promises" offered by the rebels. "We can work it out if only the people will cooperate and do not coddle the (rebels)," he said.

Since last week, the NPA has staged a series of offensives, including a Maundy Thursday attack that resulted in the death of five Army soldiers and the wounding of eight others.

On Black Saturday, about 30 NPA rebels burned the Globe cell site in Castilla, Sorsogon.

Dagudag also condemned the "rampant extortion activities" of the rebels in the form of "revolutionary taxes," which, he said, scared away possible investors.

Last month, Col. Pedrito Magsino, head of the 901st Infantry Brigade based in Daraga, Albay, said that NPA operations in Bicol had already destroyed about P6 million worth of government and private-owned installations and property.

Magsino also reported that the rebels had collected about P14.6 million in "revolutionary taxes." *Michael Jaucian and Joyce Mejillano, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

To our Valued Clients and to the General Public:

GOLDQUEST BIOTECHNOLOGIES, INC. takes the utmost exception to allegations aired against its wholly-owned companies **Quest Diagnostic Systems** and **Microbio Specialists, Inc.** over ABS-CBN Channel 2's program *Mission X* last Tuesday, April 22, 2003. We warrant that these allegations are baseless, and that the concerned television program has been misled by an individual or individuals solely motivated by malice. Furthermore, we are saddened that these companies were not accorded the similar opportunity to properly present their responses over *Mission X*.

Both **Quest Diagnostic Systems** and **Microbio Specialists, Inc.** DO NOT sell *expired* chemical reagents. For several years now, both companies have worked harmoniously with client hospitals and laboratories, under the regulatory watch of the **Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD)**. The track records of these companies remain unblemished and pristine.

While we appreciate the spirit of public service that motivates the producers of *Mission X*, WE STRONGLY REFUTE ALL ALLEGATIONS OF ILLEGAL PRACTICES ATTRIBUTED TO BOTH QUEST DIAGNOSTIC SYSTEMS AND MICROBIO SPECIALISTS, INC.

Moreover, WE REQUEST THE PRODUCERS OF *MISSION X* TO ALLOW US AMPLE AND EQUAL AIRTIME TO NEGATE THE MALICIOUS CHARGES LEVELLED AGAINST US.

Lastly, WE ASSURE YOU, OUR VALUED CLIENTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT ALL OUR PRODUCTS PASS THE STRICT QUALITY-CONTROL MEASURES PROVIDED FOR BY THE BUREAU OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

In the midst of this crisis we face, we ARE nevertheless heartened with humility that many of our clients, business partners, suppliers and friends in the industry have expressed their steadfast support for us, and have remained firm in their belief that we will never engage in acts that are contrary to law and the standards of medical practice.

REST ASSURED THAT THE TRUTH SHALL BE MADE KNOWN TO EVERYBODY AND WE SHALL OVERCOME ALL ODDS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UTMOST UNDERSTANDING

The Management
GOLDQUEST BIOTECHNOLOGIES, INC.

PAID ADVT.

Singapore has highest SARS mortality rate

NO one is above Singapore's stringent anti-SARS campaign. Even Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong gets his temperature taken on arrival at Parliament House on Thursday. All attending parliament had to go through the same procedure. AP

SINGAPORE has a higher SARS mortality rate than elsewhere, with 8 to 9 percent of patients dying. The average global fatality rate for SARS is 6 percent. Singapore's higher death rate might be related to the way it is calculated—by dividing the total number of reported cases by the number of deaths. Singapore has a relatively low number of SARS cases.

In Hong Kong, the death rate from SARS has increased to 7.2 percent, from about 5 percent earlier in the crisis. Some health experts fear it may end up around 10 percent.

* * *

Singapore taxis began plying their routes with windows rolled down after health experts said ventilation could ease the risk of passengers getting the SARS virus. Taxi companies said they were encouraging drivers not to use their vehicles' air conditioning following the advice of experts from the National University Hospital. Drivers have also been asked to put boxes of tissues in their vehicles.

* * *

Australian scientists hope to import a specimen of the SARS virus and infect chickens, pigs and cats with it in hopes of learning how the disease originated and spread. Scientists at the government's top research organization, CSIRO, said the experiment would be carried out upon the request of UN agencies and in conjunction with researchers in Canada. The experiment would be conducted to discover if the disease originated in animals and then jumped the species barrier to humans.

* * *

Fear of catching the deadly SARS virus has reached the mountain dwelling of the Dalai Lama and his Tibetan followers, who have been advised by traditional medicine practitioners to carry a small red pill and sniff it to ward off the disease. There has been no case of SARS in the northern mountain town of Dharmala, and only four cases in all India, but people were extremely worried because it is a tourist destination.

* * *

Insurance companies said no airplane exists to safely repatriate SARS victims in accordance with international guidelines. The WHO and the US Centers for Disease Control require such aircraft have two ventilation systems to totally isolate the pilot's cabin from that of the patient. "Such a plane, civilian or military, doesn't exist," said Arnaud de Courcy, medical director for Europ Assistance, the only insurance company in France to have been asked to repatriate a SARS sufferer.

* * *

Representatives from the International Air Transport Association (Iata) are set to hold crisis talks with the WHO over SARS which is causing passengers to cancel thousands of flights. The Iata will discuss "cost-reduction measures to allow the industry to survive." *Reports from AFP, AP*

Beijing seals . . .

From page A1

pore, pushing the worldwide death toll to 261. About 4,500 people have been infected in at least 30 countries.

Hours after the World Health Organization advised people against visiting the city, police took positions around the 1,200-bed Beijing University People's Hospital in the middle of the night to stop people going in or out.

"No one is allowed to enter or leave," a member of the 2,300-strong staff told Reuters by telephone. "There are policemen and security guards standing outside."

It was the latest dramatic action by a government which declared war on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome last week, five months after the virus first appeared in the southern Chinese province of Guangdong and started spreading around the world.

Outrage in Canada

There was outrage in Canada as the WHO added Toronto to a list of places to avoid because of SARS, in addition to Beijing, Hong Kong, Guangdong and Shanxi provinces.

"Where did this group come from? Who did they see? Who did they talk to?" asked a visibly angry mayor of Toronto, Mel Lastman, referring to WHO.

"Let me be clear. If it's safe to live in Toronto, it's safe to come to Toronto. I dare them to be here tomorrow."

Canadian officials said they would challenge the travel warning in a formal letter to WHO.

"There is no evidence of casual transmission of the disease in Toronto," Dr. Paul Gully of the government agency Health Canada said. "We challenge the WHO's assertion that Toronto is an unsafe place to visit."

Canada has 330 cases of SARS and 16 deaths, most of them in Toronto.

Beijing in panic

In Beijing, anxious residents were clearing supermarket shelves of food, stocking up on rice, cooking oil and frozen and dried food amid unease about possible shortages.

At an outlet in northeastern Beijing of the Jingkelong Supermarket chain, business was heaviest last Wednesday when the store was packed and eggs sold out, said a clerk.

"You should have seen it. Lines at the cash registers stretched all the way to the store's back wall," said the clerk.

The airport and train stations were packed with people fleeing the city.

Beijing authorities issued assurances that there was plenty of food in the stores and that there was no truth to rumors that the city would be sealed off.

But they said anybody suspected of having SARS and any area where the virus had been found would be isolated. Anybody who violated the order would be "severely punished."

The first victims of the measure were the city's prisons where employees have been banned from leaving and family visits have been stopped.

China's national library was also shut down for two weeks.

More SARS cases

Yesterday, China announced that another 125 people came down with SARS and four more had died, most of them in Beijing. That took the national number of SARS infections to 2,422, and the death toll to 110.

Beijing, a city of 14 million people, reported 89 of the new cases and all four of the deaths. There have been 39 deaths in Beijing which now has 774 cases.

China's state-run media issued a rallying call to the nation against what it called "a savage attack against mankind."

Premier Wen Jiabao said the consequences of eruptions in rural China "could be too dreadful to contemplate."

"This is an out-of-the-ordinary test, a severe test facing China's new collective leadership at the central level and the broad masses," the Communist Party mouthpiece People's Daily said of new party leaders installed only in November.

Singapore, Hong Kong

Singapore reported another SARS death, taking the total to 15 known fatalities and two suspected ones.

In Hong Kong, four more SARS patients have died, bringing the toll to 109. Thirty new cases were also reported.

The latest fatalities were all men, ranging in age from 39 to 71, who had been afflicted with other chronic illnesses. *Reports from Reuters, AFP, AP*

Mang Pacifico. Pandacan. Barangay 834. Zone 91.

We've built this community one generation at a time.

Mang Pacifico represents four generations of the Eugenio family who call Pandacan "Home." "It's secure and it's safe. All this fear about fire, the companies have trained the residents to guard our homes and how to take our children to safe shelter. Fact is, there's never been a problem in my 77 years. And with the new park they're building, our children will have a place to play, just like I did years ago when they were huge open fields." Mang Pacifico is just one the 70,000 reasons we should continue to call Pandacan "Home."

CALTEX PETRON

Abu beheaded her hubby …

From page A1

FINALLY, former Abu Sayyaf hostages Emily Mantic and Cleofe Montulo can smile again, especially in the company of President Macapagal who met with them on Thursday at the Palace, together with 3-year-old Jenny May Mantic (right), who is in the arms of Benjamin Montulo. EDWIN BACASMAS

"I am now back with my child even if she doesn't want me," Emily, breaking into tears, said in Malacañang after she and Cleofe were received by the President.

That Benjamin Montulo, Cleofe's husband, can carry Jenny May in his arms only adds to her frustration, she said.

"They don't even know each other but she goes to them (the Montulos)," Emily said. "I'm her mother and she doesn't want me. But that's okay because at least I can now see her."

After Lionel's death, she recalled, she resolved to do everything to escape, if only to be reunited with their daughter.

"I thought of all means to escape for the sake of our child," Emily said. "She was my sole inspiration and I tried everything because she was the only treasure I have left."

Emily said they made their captors believe they were not going to escape, to make them lower their guard.

The Abu Sayyaf had threatened that if they escaped, the gunmen would hunt them down as well as their families.

"They got the names of our family members so they (Abu Sayyaf) could negotiate for ransom," Emily said.

Immediately after their capture, she said, they told the Abu Sayyaf they were poor people without the means to pay ransom.

Cleofe said that they were not harmed. "They did not hurt us because perhaps they were expecting us to be ransomed," she said. But no ransom was ever paid.

Emily said the bandits told them that they were abducted because they were suspected of being military "intelligence agents."

Emily said that was the same reason the bandits gave for beheading Lionel last Aug. 22, and another companion, Lemuel Montulo, Cleofe's brother-in-law, the next day.

Their other companions, Florida Montulo and Nori Bendijo, are still in the hands of the Abu Sayyaf.

President Macapagal-Arroyo expressed elation that Emily and Cleofe were finally reunited with their families. She promised that the government would help them return to normal life.

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
TIP
FOUNDED 1962 MANILA

FIRST SEMESTER
SY 2003-2004
CLASSES BEGIN JUNE 9

ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE (5 Years)
- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Electronics & Communications Engineering
- Industrial Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Sanitary Engineering
- Architecture

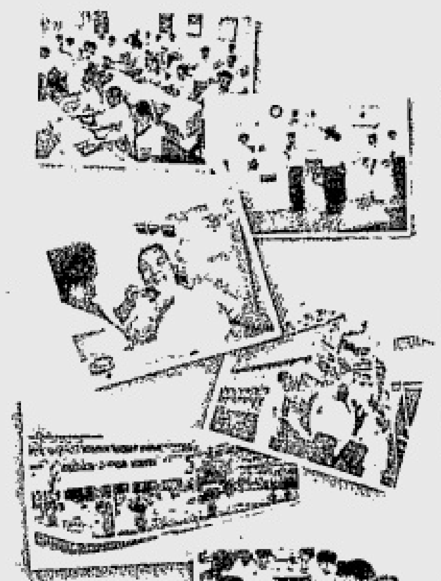
BUSINESS EDUCATION (4 Years)
- Accountancy (Manila Campus)
- Commerce Major in
  - Computer Management
  - Management
  - Entrepreneurship
- Financial and Management Accounting

MARITIME EDUCATION (4 Years)
- Marine Engineering
- Marine Transportation (Manila Campus)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) EDUCATION (4 Years)
- Computer Science
- Information Management
- Information Technology
- Associate in Computer Technology (2 Years)

SPECIAL IT PROGRAMS
- CISCO Networking Academy Program
- ORACLE Academic Initiative Program
- International Computer Driving License Program (ICDL)

TECHNOLOGY / VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS
- Drafting Technology (1 Year)
- Seafarer's Rating Course (Deck, Engine, Steward)



41 years of Excellence in Engineering Education

www.tip.edu.ph
ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
In constant redefinition of academic life

MANILA CAMPUSES
363 P. Casal St., Quiapo, Manila
Tels. 733-9117 / 734-3642

1338 Arlegui St., Quiapo, Manila

QUEZON CITY CAMPUS
938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City
Tels. 911-0148 / 912-1539

Braganza …

From page A1

On Wednesday, the same source said, President Macapagal met with Braganza but no details have been released, particularly if she had asked him to stay at his post.

Braganza, formerly the secretary of the Department of Agrarian Reform until his appointment to the press office in January, is reportedly afflicted with diabetes.

A source said that doctors recently discovered complications in Braganza's carotid vein and that he is currently under treatment.

Braganza hasn't been around much at the Palace since his appointment due to his health problems.

A third Palace source noted that in Braganza's absence, it was Presidential Chief of Staff Rigoberto Tiglao who has been "assisting the OPS" (Office of the Press Secretary).

Tiglao and Braganza, both anti-Marcos activists, have had a running feud over who gets to hold office in the former bedroom of strongman Ferdinand Marcos.

At one point, Tiglao and his staff found themselves locked out of the Marcos bedroom. The two men had also fought in front of President Macapagal, who reportedly kept quiet throughout the turf war. Tiglao is now occupying the Marcos bedroom.

Another Palace source said that Braganza hasn't "exactly been happy with how the communications program in Malacañang is being run."

It is well-known that while Braganza is the press boss, his duties are limited to running the agencies of the Office of the Press Secretary.

The over-all public communications program of Ms Macapagal is managed by an informal 10-member advisory group headed by Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo. It includes private public relations practitioners and members of the Cabinet.

"But when there are boo-boos, it's Braganza who gets the blame and unfairly so," the second source said.

Braganza replaced then Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye, who in turn became presidential spokesperson, the post held by Tiglao before his appointment as Palace chief of staff.

Dining
Living
Bedroom
Sofa
Foyer
Office

EXPORT OVERRUN SALE
PROMO PERIOD: APRIL 25 - MAY 25, 2003
MEJORE WOODWORKS INCORPORATED
Distributed all over the world
Visit our showroom at: IDC Bldg. E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City
or call us at: 636-7030 / 637-5976 Store hours: Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 10am-4pm
SUPPORT Buy FILIPINO PRODUCTS
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2 171 Series of 2003

Filipino hospitality flies out of window

By Joyce Mejillano
and Gil Francis Arevalo
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—Thanks but no, thanks.

A long-planned visit here by a nine-member delegation from the Lanzhou Municipal People's Government in China has been scrapped by the provincial government of Albay because of the scare sparked by SARS.

The delegates were due to arrive on April 29 for the signing of a sisterhood agreement with Albay. They were to stay in the province for seven days, in time for the celebration of the Magayon Festival.

Board member Gigi Manzanilla said she frankly told Wu Shenlu, director of the Foreign Affairs Office of Lanzhou, not to come after Albay residents and officials expressed vehement opposition to the visit for fear of a SARS outbreak.

It was Manzanilla who authored the resolution for the sisterhood project with the Lanzhou government, and who invited the delegates for the signing ceremony. "At first they didn't want to accept what I proposed, but later they agreed," she said.

The resolution containing the invitation was approved by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan as early as Aug. 13 last year.

Manzanilla said the Chinese delegates would still come to the Philippines, but only up to Manila. She said she was able to convince them to hold the signing ceremony there.

She said she also asked the DILG Philippine International Sisterhood and Twinning Association to entertain the visitors in order to preserve the good relationship between the two countries.

Vice Gov. James Calisin, together with the Sangguniang Panlalawigan members, earlier asked Manzanilla to cancel the planned visit.

"We cannot sacrifice the health of our constituents just for the sake of that sisterhood program," Calisin said.

Abductors smashed …

From page A1

tivists of militant organizations in Southern Tagalog, and relatives of the victims.

Doctors from the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) and Community Health Development (CHD) found marks on the wrists and knees of the victims, showing that they had been hogtied and were kneeling while they were being tortured.

Marcellana's body did not have bullet wounds but had two stab marks in the face and two in her upper back. Her face was shattered, her nose bridge broken and she almost had no teeth left.

A post mortem done by the doctors showed that a heavy object was probably used to bash Marcellana's face while she was kneeling or lying down, according to Danny Beltran of the Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace.

Gumanoy suffered two bullet wounds—one in the chest and one in the face, believed to be the fatal shot.

Kneeling down

Beltran said the wound and the marks on Gumanoy's knees indicated that he was shot while kneeling.

Gunpowder burns were also found on Gumanoy's head, showing that he had been shot at close range.

Marcellana, Gumanoy and three others were seized Monday night by masked men while on their way to conduct fact-finding missions on military abuses in Oriental Mindoro. The two were found dead in Bansud town the next day while the three others were found hogtied in Bongabong town.

A worker at Funeraria Marasigan here, who took care of the bodies, said Gumanoy was found lying face down four meters from Marcellana. The site had blood stains.

The worker said police were already at the site when he arrived to bring the bodies to the funeral parlor.

"We hope that the local government and regional government officials of Mindoro, including the congressional representatives, assist the families of the victims in finding out what really happened to their loved ones," Ocampo said.

At about 1 a.m. yesterday, the bodies of the two slain militant leaders arrived at the Batangas City pier, accompanied by their close relatives and the fact-finding team.

Holding banners and placards, jeeploads of militants from Bayan, Gabriela and Anakpawis accompanied the hearses in a "death caravan" from Batangas to the UP Chapel in Quezon City, where services will be held for three nights.

Rally at Camp Aguinaldo

Before proceeding to the chapel, militant groups stopped in front of Camp Aguinaldo, headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and staged a rally. They demanded the relief and court martial of Col. Jovito Palparan, chief of the Army's 204th Infantry Brigade in Oriental Mindoro, who was blamed for the murders.

"(President) Gloria (Macapagal-Arroyo) has ignored the problems of the farmers in Southern Tagalog. Many has been killed; the toll has reached 64, including my wife and Ka Eddie. We brought them here to show to our countrymen that the terrorists are the soldiers and Gloria," said an angry, sobbing Orly Marcellana, Eden's widower.

"We have to show this to (Defense) Secretary Angelo Reyes. If necessary, we would bring the caskets inside. F__k you, Reyes," he hollered before a phalanx of soldiers wielding shields and sticks.

Orly also demanded the relief and summary execution of Palparan, asserting that the torture of his wife and the fatal shooting of Gumanoy were "not the work of soldiers in their right minds." Palparan has denied the charges against him.

"I'm asking for his head. The NPA should execute him and let his head roll. This brigade under Palparan should be punished," he said, adding: "Many others will suffer the same fate if this were not done."

Gumanoy's daughter, Rose Ann, echoed Orly's sentiments, "Those people responsible for my father's killing and Palparan should be punished," said the teary-eyed 16-year-old girl.

Skepticism

Both Orly, who brought along his two young daughters, and Rose Ann viewed with skepticism President Macapagal's order to Justice Secretary Simeon Datumanong to look into the murders.

"I would only start believing if they pull out the 26 battalions of the military, and jail and subject to court martial Colonel Palparan."

Rose Ann, for her part, sought Ms Macapagal's ouster. "We can't expect her to help us. What happened to my father was her wish in the first place," she said.

Amid the skepticism over her order to create a task force to investigate the murders, the President vowed yesterday to bring the killers of Marcellana and Gumanoy to the bar of justice. She condemned "this heinous act" as she expressed condolences to the victims' families.

"The long arm of the law will go after the perpetrators, no matter who they are, and bring them before the bar of justice," she said in a statement.

She said the same after the murders of communist leaders Felimon "Popoy" Lagman and Romulo "Rolly" Kintañar, Reform the Armed Forces Movement spokesperson Baron Cervantes and Senior Supt. John Campos. The killings remain unsolved.

Silver

The Promotion of Church People's Response (PCPR), a member of the fact-finding mission, said Palparan and his special agent Aniano "Silver" Flores collaborated in the abduction and execution of Marcellana and Gumanoy.

PCPR documented the testimonies of the three companions of the two slain human rights activists who recognized the voice and face of Silver as he did not cover his face, while the other abductors wore bonnets.

It is no secret in Mindoro that Silver works as a special military agent, after he was presented by Palparan as a rebel returnee a few years back, according to PCPR.

Silver was also identified by witnesses as one of the triggermen in the killings of Ronald "Choy" Napoles, the Albarillo couple and other Bayan Muna leaders. *With reports from Christian V. Esguerra Christine O. Avendano Philip C. Tubeza, and Alcuin Papa in Manila; and Delfin Mallari Jr. and Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

16 dead as MILF goes on rampage

From page A1

town about an hour later. The attacks, occurring on opposite ends of Maigo's borders, were apparently aimed at leading to a full occupation of the municipality, in the same way the rebels occupied Kauswagan town in March 2000.

Maigo is two municipalities away from the capital town of Tubod, which is hosting the Palarong Pambansa from May 4 to 11. It is not yet known if the national games, which will attract some 5,000 athletes, will go on as scheduled. *(See story on Page A25.)*

Kolambugan

The rebels attacked Barangay Kulasihan of Kolambugan town before daybreak, targeting a police detachment which was defended by only four policemen.

Residents told reporters the rebels, numbering about 300, were sighted in the area as early as two hours before the actual assault.

According to one of the police officers manning the detachment, the rebels started the assault with B-40 rocket fire, which torched the detachment structures, a policeman's jeep and a service motorcycle.

The outnumbered policemen yielded their position after a 30-minute firefight, paving the way for the rebels' takeover of the national highway and a bridge some 30 meters from the detachment.

The skirmish left an MILF fighter killed, said a civilian witness, one of those early morning travelers who were stranded. No fatalities were reported on the part of police.

But the clash left 10 civilians dead, among them a 3-year-old child and a Dipolog City-based businessman, Rally Falame, 49.

After taking control of the highway, the rebels stopped passing vehicles and used these to block parts of the road and the bridge, apparently to block government reinforcements.

The child was among those aboard a fish delivery vehicle whose driver refused to heed the rebels' order to stop.

The jeepney driver, Angga Saitas of Balagatas, Maigo, died as he forced his way across the bridge. He was later found sprawled on his bullet-riddled seat, bathed in blood.

As reinforcement troops arrived and moved in to retake the highway, the rebels took more than 30 stranded travelers hostage, forcing them to lie face down on the asphalt road, said Jerry Arcadio, one of the hostages.

Arcadio said the rebels escaped by commandeering three of the stranded vehicles lined along the highway, including a government service car. The vehicles were later abandoned.

By 9 a.m., Kulasihan was free of rebel presence.

A military intelligence source disclosed that the rebels took three policemen captive, one of them identified as a certain SPO2 Clapano.

The source said the policemen were still in the custody of their MILF captors. But Supt. Sarip Laut, Lanao del Norte police director, denied any policemen were still missing.

Maigo

At 6 a.m., a similar number of rebels occupied the stretch of the national highway that passed through Maigo, as well as a bridge in Barangay Barongison.

They then commanded passing vehicles to halt.

When a Super 5 Transit bus from Iligan City refused to heed the order, the rebels sprayed it with bullets, killing its driver, Raymart Duhaylungsod Pasko and a passenger, Emilia Vidal.

Pasko and Vidal were hit in the head.

Commander Bravo, head of the MILF's 303rd Brigade based in Lanao del Norte, said the rebels were forced to fire at the bus because it refused to stop.

"The MILF leadership has ordered us to launch the attack. We did not mean to hurt the bus passengers but it (bus) did not stop so we were forced to strafe it," Bravo told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview.

Ten other passengers and three soldiers were treated for bullet wounds, said Col. Ernesto Boac, commander of the 401st Infantry Brigade. Two rebels were also reported killed.

The rebels took some 300 persons hostage. But they were not able to pursue a takeover of the town hall because of the fierce defense put up by policemen and Army troops stationed in the town.

The rebels inflicted damage on the Barongison bridge, however, and blocked it with the Super 5 bus and a 10-wheeler truck.

The rebels started streaming to safer ground when two helicopter gunships began pounding their positions.

At about 2 p.m., a military "mopping-up operation" led to skirmishes in the hinterland portion of Barangay Barongison.

Boac said government troops had regained control of the highway and were "clearing the area from the rebels to restore normalcy."

"The two towns were cleared around 10:40 a.m., and the highway was opened to traffic," Armed Forces spokesperson Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero said.

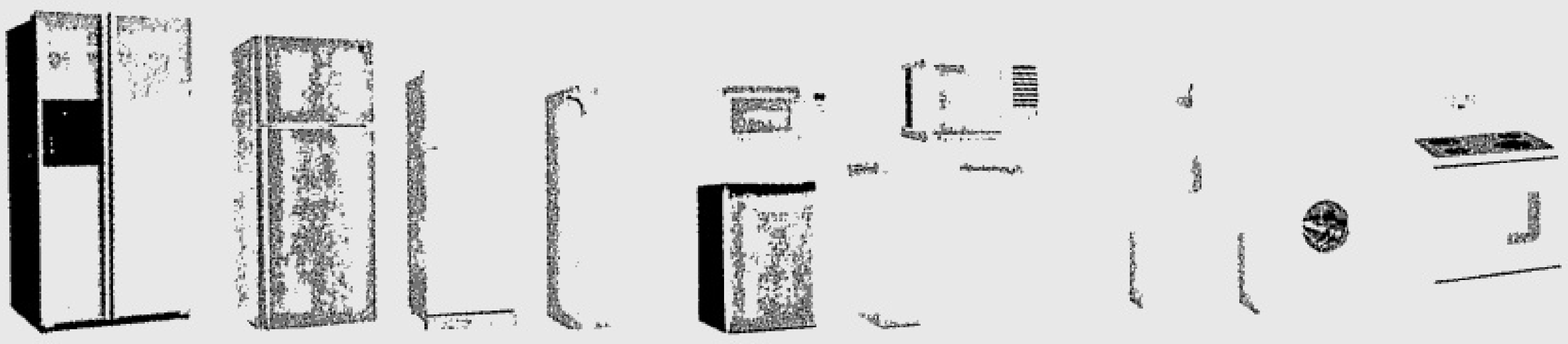
In the Carmen, North Cotabato ambush, barangay chair Dionisio Villaver was killed, together with his son Jimmy and two security escorts.

Maj. Gen. Generoso Senga said their private jeepney hit a land mine which knocked it on its side, after which MILF forces blasted the stricken vehicle with rocket-propelled grenades and rifle fire.

Kabalu admitted that the MILF was behind the ambush, saying they targeted Villaver because he had supported a military offensive against the rebels. "They are Army allies, they are militiamen and armed."

Carmen police said Villaver led a band of village defenders last month in thwarting an attempt by the MILF to attack Barangay Ranso. In that incident, two MILF fighters were killed. *Ryan D. Rosauro, Hernan P. dela Cruz, Grace Cantal-Albasin and Lullie Micabalo, PDI Mindanao Bureau; with reports from Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau; AP, AFP, Reuters; Martin Marfil*

The only
Platinum
SuperBrand
in the
Philippines.*



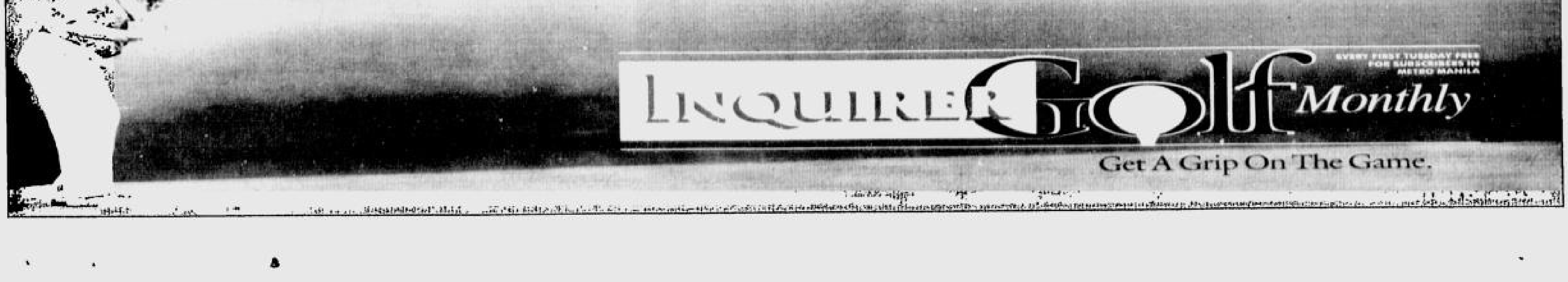
voted by readers
SUPER BRAND
Platinum 2003
Reader's Digest Philippines

GE is by far the most preferred brand of refrigerator, according to the Reader's Digest Asia's SuperBrand survey. ***It was voted SuperBrand of the Year in Asia and Platinum SuperBrand of the Year for refrigeration in the Philippines for the second year running.** In terms of quality, value, strong image, trustworthiness and understanding of consumers' needs, no refrigerator brand comes close.

GE Appliances
We bring good things to life.

http://www.geappliances-philippines.com

Service line 643-3456 Call now for Inquiries. Laguna: (049) 539-0002; Cebu: (032) 344-6926; Cagayan De Oro; (088) 856-4727; Davao: (082) 222-1181
Official Distributor: CYA Industries Inc. #103 Mercedes Avenue Brgy. San Miguel, Pasig City
CYA Industries Incorporated



FOR EFFECTIVE PITCHES
and potent marketing, welcome to the club.
EVERY FIRST TUESDAY FREE FOR SUBSCRIBERS IN METRO MANILA
INQUIRER Golf Monthly
Get A Grip On The Game.

Sick passenger forces PAL plane to turn back

A PHILIPPINE Airlines flight to South Korea returned to Manila shortly after takeoff Thursday evening after one passenger was discovered to be ill with SARS-like symptoms, officials said.

The unidentified South Korean man was taken to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine in Alabang for examination after Flight PR416 to Pusan, South Korea, returned to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport at around 6:15 p.m. The rest of the plane's 147 passengers and eight crew members were taken to a holding area, Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said.

Airport quarantine duty officer Dr. Clodualdo Mortel said the Boeing 737 pilot decided to return to Manila after the man was found to be suffering from chills and running a 40-degree fever.

Airport manager Edgardo Manda, who was called by President Macapagal-Arroyo for details on the incident, said the 31-year-old man was part of a South Korean tour group. He said there were 125 Korean and 22 Filipino passengers on the flight.

Dr. Remigio Olveda, RITM director, said upon questioning, the Korean tourist said he had traveled directly from South Korea, which is SARS-free, to the Philippines where he visited central Cebu City.

He said other details about the man's medical history were still being taken late Thursday. Officials will later determine whether he could be a suspected SARS case and when the other passengers could be released from the holding area.

Airline spokesmen were not immediately available for comment. *AP*

GMA bares tough measures

From page A1

place," Bunye said at his regular media briefing.

Asked what legal basis the order would stand on, Bunye said the government could "always invoke the public welfare clause," apparently referring to the Constitution.

In her statement, the President appealed for the cooperation of the public: "We can only contain this threat to the extent that every citizen is willing to do his or her share. I ask our people to conscientiously follow the advisories and procedures prescribed by the health authorities."

She said all law enforcement agencies and local government units down to the barangay level were obliged to support the "disciplinary campaign," but assured "those subject to temporary containment measures" that the government would provide "all the assistance to alleviate the inconveniences."

She also said Malacañang would work closely with Congress for the passage of "long-term measures requiring legislation."

The President's statement came a day after the Senate passed a resolution calling on the Department of Health to implement immediate anti-SARS measures.

The resolution also called on the DOH to be "truthful, open and transparent" about the state of the country vis a vis the killer disease.

In a speech yesterday before the Philippine Ambassadors Association, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said the government was not attempting a coverup.

"We are not just waiting for SARS to come into the country. We are actually looking for cases of SARS to further prevent its spread," said Golez, who serves as adviser of the SARS crisis committee.

Golez said the necessary announcements would be made to keep the public informed.

"SARS is a national security concern that is greater than any threat of terrorism on the country," he said. "It is being treated as such by the government."

No need for new laws

Negros Occidental Rep. Apolinaro Lozada Jr. has filed House Bill No. 5937 establishing a mandatory quarantine program for the prevention of SARS and other highly contagious diseases.

Lozada filed the measure saying voluntary quarantine was insufficient to curb the spread of SARS.

But according to Senate President Franklin Drilon and Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, there is no need to enact new quarantine laws.

Drilon said forcible quarantine for suspected SARS cases could be "justified under the police power of the state," and Pimentel said the Constitution provides the state powers "for purposes of protecting the health of our people."

Sen. Manuel Villar Jr., however, said present laws merely imposed quarantine on airports and sea ports.

"The SARS problem has awakened us to the weakness of our existing laws on quarantine," he said in a statement. "The passage of a forced-quarantine law should be prioritized by Congress."

Drilon told reporters that the government had the right to forcefully confine suspected SARS cases.

He said he was calling on police authorities to strictly enforce the isolation of three zones in Barangay Vacante in Alcala, Pangasinan—home village of Adela Catalon, who died of probable SARS on April 14—"because this is within the residual power of the state."

Drilon also said people should "not be so sensitive about individual freedoms, because in a democracy you should always have the general welfare over and above individual freedoms."

No SARS symptoms

Pangasinan health officer Nemesia Mejia said no one among the residents of Barangay Vacante, where 169 families had been ordered isolated by the DOH, had developed fever or other SARS symptoms.

"The medical team assigned in the village reported that as of Thursday, the residents, who are under medical observation, are healthy," Mejia said.

The 14-day quarantine period that began on April 12 will end midnight of April 26, according to Dr. Eduardo Janairo, DOH regional director for the Ilocos.

Alcala Mayor Juanito Collado said food packs and basic household supplies from the local government had been distributed to the residents. He said sacks of rice and food packs promised by Gov. Victor Agbayani would be distributed shortly.

Provincial administrator Virgilio Solis also promised to send pork and vitamins for children to augment the food rations.

Collado said Pangasinan Rep. Mark Cojuango had promised to give a kilogram of chicken and pork to each of the quarantined families.

On Wednesday, the PhilHealth sent 500 snack packs to the villagers, according to Mejia.

Collado said that with the food assistance, there was no more reason for the residents to defy the quarantine order.

The regional police office in La Union has sent a team to beef up the local police force enforcing the quarantine.

"They first sent seven policemen, then another 14," Collado said. "But I thought the number was too much. The people might panic if they see many policemen in the area, so I said the seven-member team was enough."

Collado thanked those who had been extending help, but said he was disheartened by the way other people were treating the residents of not only Vacante but also of the entire town.

"It's terrible how Alcala people are treated now," he said. *With reports from Norman Bordadora in Manila; Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

St. Augustine
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Dear Inay,

Eto na po ang inyong stateside na anak!!!
Di ba ang ganda ko??? Nagsimula na po kami
sa ospital last week. Masaya naman ang
trabaho at mababait sila. Naaalala po ba
ninyo si Mona, kaklase ko sa St. Augustine?
Nandito na rin pala siya, kaya may
kaibigan agad ako.

Alam niyo Inay, buti nalang at
pinagtiyagaan po ninyo akong pag-aralin.
Nagagamit ko po talaga lahat ng
pinag-aralan ko—naigulat nga po sila
at napaka-well trained daw namin.
Siyempre, St. Augustine eh! Pati nga
placement sa trabaho, sila tumulong, di po ba?

Yan po muna ang kuwento. Maaga po ang shift ko
ngayon. Pa-kiss kay bunso.

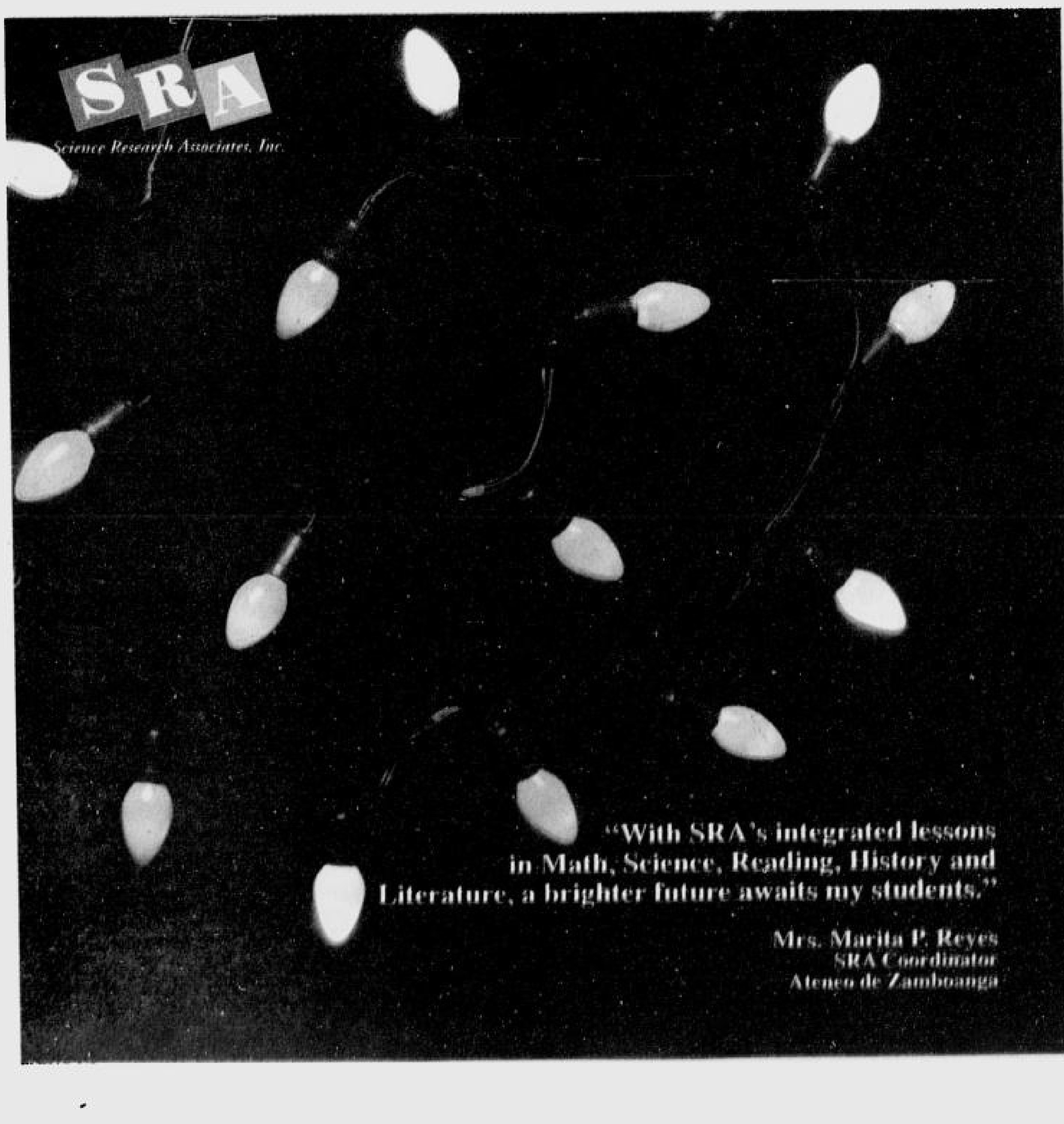
Love,
Sarah =)

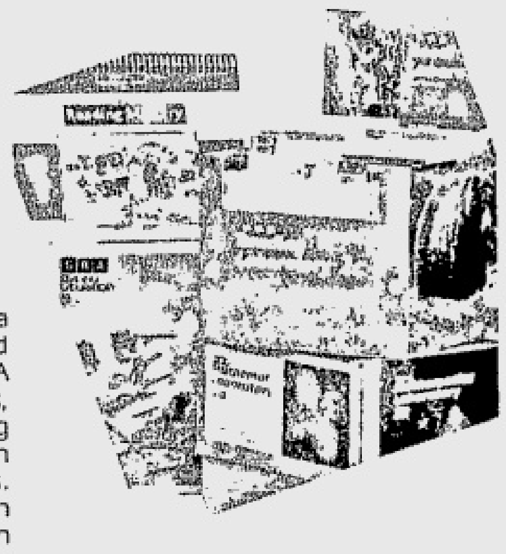
P.S. Ngayon, makakabawi naman ako sa inyo.
Mag-iipon po ako ng husto. At siyempre, magpapakabait!

SARAH PALOMAR
GRADUATE OF THE PROFESSIONAL
CAREGIVER PROGRAM

Registration Ongoing. For inquiries on entrance exam and enrollment schedules, you may call any campus today.
ESPAÑA 735-8871, 735-9262 • MAKATI 895-5060 • FAIRVIEW-LAGRO 461-3793, 461-3795 • PARAÑAQUE 541-4580 • ZAMBOANGA (062) 984-1520 to 22 Permit application pending with TESDA for the following branches. CALOOCAN 366-8896 • LIPA (043) 312-0157, (043) 722-1895 • STA. CRUZ (049) 808-5383 • ILOILO (033) 829-5020 • DAVAO (082) 225-1500 TACLOBAN • QUEZON CITY • PASAY • PASIG • ALABANG • MALOLOS • SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA • BATANGAS • CABANATUAN • BATAAN • URDANETA • BAGUIO • CEBU • BACOLOD Certificate of TVET Program Registration: (España) Recto, Manila NTR0213020097 • Makati NTR0313050004 Fairview NTR0313060008 • Parañaque NTR0213032146 • Zamboanga NTR02090401030 • Iloilo NTR0306051008 • Davao NTR0311042013
ASIA'S PIONEER AND LARGEST IN PROFESSIONAL CAREGIVING AND PRACTICAL NURSING

St. Augustine
SCHOOL OF NURSING
A member of the AMA Education System


SRA
Science Research Associates, Inc.
"With SRA's integrated lessons in Math, Science, Reading, History and Literature, a brighter future awaits my students."
Mrs. Marita P. Reyes
SRA Coordinator
Ateneo de Zamboanga



Mrs. Reyes always takes the extra effort to make her students find relevance in what she teaches. In SRA she found a way to link several subjects, creating continuing interest, connecting theory with application, resulting in better understanding of the lessons. Her strategy proved to be effective, with her students getting higher grades upon using SRA materials.

SRA offers multi-level learning materials designed to suit different learning styles. It promotes comprehension and development of the student's analytical skills. SRA allows learners who differ in areas of strengths and weaknesses to progress at their own pace. It integrates basic subjects like Reading, Mathematics, Science, History and Literature to guarantee the formation of well-rounded students destined for success.

OTHER BENEFITS OF THE SRA INCLUDE:
- Helps widen student's vocabulary
- Provides practice for discriminating listening
- Enhances ability to follow instructions
- Expands student's general knowledge of history, science, math and literature

SRA PROGRAMS:
- Direct Instruction
- Real Science
- Everyday Math
- Basic Computer

ABIVA PUBLISHING HOUSE, INC.
Tel no. 740-5823
Fax no. 732-0308 • Cel no. (0917) 8305210
Abiva Bldg., 851 G. Araneta Ave., 1113 Q.C.
E-mail: cob_sra@indanet.com • www.abiva.com.ph

cut and fax to 732-0308

☐ YES! I'd like to know more about SRA!

Name: ____
Designation: ____
School: ____
Address: ____
Phone: ____
Fax: ____

NBI busts drug ring; seizes shabu worth P1M

By Philip C. Tubeza

WYCOCO shows the new material used to make shabu. ERIK ARAZAS

AGENTS of the National Bureau of Investigation seized P1 million worth of shabu and arrested five suspected members of a drug syndicate said to be exporting the illegal substance to the Persian Gulf state of Bahrain.

NBI Director General Reynaldo Wycoco identified the suspects as Rolando B. dela Cruz, 37, of Bagong Silang, Caloocan City, Renato D. Calugdan, 30, of Golden City, Imus, Cavite; Maimona A. Mandia, 34, of Sultan Esmael, Dasmariñas, Cavite; Genalyn S. Garcia, 19, San Antonio, Biñan, Laguna; and Maricel G. Pacayra, 22, of Elvinda Village, San Pedro, Laguna.

Wycoco said Dela Cruz was an overseas contract worker in Bahrain, who brought several grams of shabu there on three separate occasions and who sold the drugs to his Filipino contacts in Bahrain for P50,000 per gram. He said the group supposedly got the shabu from another drug syndicate in Metro Manila.

Manila judge fined for inefficiency

THE SUPREME Court has ordered a Manila regional trial court judge to pay a fine of P11,000 after he was found guilty of gross inefficiency.

In a decision released in Baguio City on Tuesday, the SC's third division also issued a warning to Judge Vicente Hidalgo for his failure to resolve a motion within the period prescribed by the Constitution.

Hidalgo, who was investigated by the office of the court administrator (Ocad), failed to act on a motion for reconsideration filed by complainant Aurora Gonzales.

In the motion, Gonzales asked Hidalgo to reconsider his Dec. 4, 2001 order granting a writ of preliminary injunction on the sale of properties of the Development Insurance and Surety Corp. (Disco).

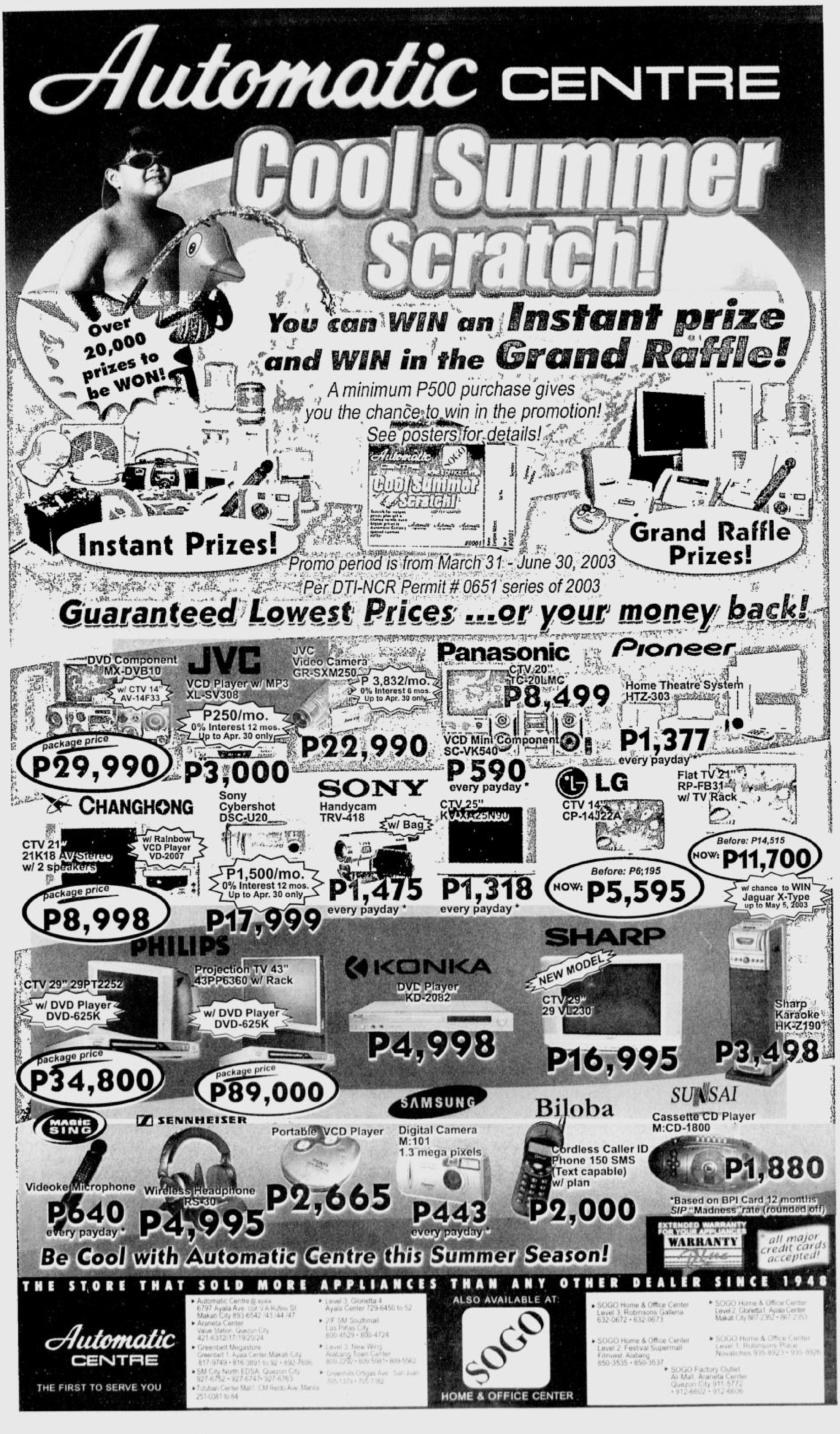
Disco earlier posted bond of P683,101.38 with the court to stall the enforcement of an ejection suit Gonzales had won against Nabil Magdy Ali Ibrahim El Halawanay.

When asked by the Ocad to comment, Hidalgo pleaded for understanding, saying he failed to act on the motion on time because his sala did not have a clerk of court, a legal researcher and an additional stenographer.

But in a 10-page decision penned by Associate Justice Artemio Panganiban, the SC ruled that Hidalgo could not use the lack of manpower in his court as an excuse for the delay in resolving the motion.

"Failure to resolve a case submitted for resolution within the required period violates the constitutional right of the parties to a speedy disposition of their cases," the decision said.

It added that Hidalgo could have simply asked the court for an extension to resolve the motion, which "for good reasons is normally granted." *Delmar Carino, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*


Automatic CENTRE
Cool Summer Scratch!
Over 20,000 prizes to be WON!
You can WIN an Instant prize and WIN in the Grand Raffle!
A minimum P500 purchase gives you the chance to win in the promotion! See posters for details!
Instant Prizes!
Grand Raffle Prizes!
Promo period is from March 31 - June 30, 2003
Per DTI-NCR Permit # 0651 series of 2003
Guaranteed Lowest Prices ...or your money back!
DVD Component MX-DVB10
w/ CTV 14" AV-14F33
package price P29,990
JVC
VCD Player w/ MP3 XL-SV308
P250/mo. 0% Interest 12 mos. Up to Apr. 30 only
P3,000
JVC Video Camera GR-SXM250
P 3,832/mo. 0% Interest 6 mos. Up to Apr. 30 only
P22,990
Panasonic
CTV 20" TC-20LMC
P8,499
VCD Mini Component SC-VK540
P590 every payday *
Pioneer
Home Theatre System HTZ-303
P1,377 every payday *
CHANGHONG
CTV 21" 21K18 AV Stereo w/ 2 speakers
w/ Rainbow VCD Player VD-2007
package price P8,998
Sony Cybershot DSC-U20
P1,500/mo. 0% Interest 12 mos. Up to Apr. 30 only
P17,999
SONY
Handycam TRV-418
w/ Bag
P1,475 every payday *
CTV 25" KV-XA25N90
P1,318 every payday *
LG
CTV 14" CP-14J22A
Before: P6,195 NOW: P5,595
Flat TV 21" RP-FB31 w/ TV Rack
Before: P14,515 NOW: P11,700
w/ chance to WIN Jaguar X-Type up to May 5, 2003
PHILIPS
CTV 29" 29PT2252
w/ DVD Player DVD-625K
package price P34,800
Projection TV 43" 43PP6360 w/ Rack
w/ DVD Player DVD-625K
package price P89,000
KONKA
DVD Player KD-2082
P4,998
SHARP
NEW MODEL
CTV 29" 29 VL230
P16,995
Sharp Karaoke HK-Z190
P3,498
MAGIC SING
Videoke Microphone
P640 every payday *
SENNHEISER
Wireless Headphone RS-30
P4,995
Portable VCD Player
P2,665
SAMSUNG
Digital Camera M:101 1.3 mega pixels
P443 every payday *
Biloba
Cordless Caller ID Phone 150 SMS (Text capable) w/ plan
P2,000
SUNSAI
Cassette CD Player M:CD-1800
P1,880
*Based on BPI Card 12 months SIP "Madness" rate (rounded off)
EXTENDED WARRANTY FOR YOUR APPLIANCES WARRANTY Plus
all major credit cards accepted!
Be Cool with Automatic Centre this Summer Season!
THE STORE THAT SOLD MORE APPLIANCES THAN ANY OTHER DEALER SINCE 1948
Automatic CENTRE
THE FIRST TO SERVE YOU
ALSO AVAILABLE AT:
SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER

- Automatic Centre @ ayala 6797 Ayala Ave. cor. V.A. Rufino St. Makati City 893-6542 /43 /44 /47
- Araneta Center Value Station, Quezon City 421-6312/17/19/20/24
- Greenbelt Megastore Greenbelt 1, Ayala Center Makati City 817-9749 • 816-3891 to 92 • 892-7696
- SM City North EDSA, Quezon City 927-6752 • 927-6747 • 927-6763
- Tutuban Center Mall I, CM Recto Ave. Manila 251-0381 to 84
- Level 3, Glorietta 4 Ayala Center 729-6450 to 52
- 2/F SM Southmall Las Piñas City 800-4529 • 800-4724
- Level 3, New Wing Alabang Town Center 809-2292 • 809-5981 • 809-5562
- Greenhills Ortigas Ave., San Juan 705-1379 • 705-1382
- SOGO Home & Office Center Level 3, Robinsons Galleria 632-0672 • 632-0673
- SOGO Home & Office Center Level 2, Glorietta 1, Ayala Center Makati City 867-2352 • 867-2353
- SOGO Home & Office Center Level 2, Festival Supermall Filinvest, Alabang 850-3535 • 850-3537
- SOGO Home & Office Center Level 1, Robinsons Place Novaliches 935-8923 • 935-8926
- SOGO Factory Outlet Ali Mall, Araneta Center Quezon City 911-5772 • 912-6602 • 912-6606

Over 3,000 Instant Prizes Have Been Given Away!

THIS SUMMER, cool down with Automatic Centre's **Cool Summer Scratch** and be one of our lucky customers who have won for themselves appliances instantly!

Customers of various branches have become **instant winners** of **numerous appliances:** stand fans, desk fans, blenders, hot and cold water dispensers, VCD players, cassette recorders, cordless phones, coffee makers, rice cookers, 2-burner gas stoves, electric kettle, flat iron, and many more items.

You, too, can be as lucky as them! You can win the **videoke microphone, digital camera**, foot spa, more electric fans, etc.

For a **minimum purchase of P500** at any Automatic Centre or Sogo branch, you get a scratch card in which you can win instant prizes. Plus, you can also join in the **grand raffle** wherein you can win various home appliances! **The top prize is a 43" projection TV.** Other major prizes include a **1hp airconditioner with timer,** videoke microphone, **2-door refrigerator,** digital camera, **fax machines,** hot and cold water dispensers, portable VCD players and cordless phone.

Promo is until June 30, 2003, so hurry and be cool and lucky this summer season with Automatic Centre's **Cool Summer Scratch**!

"0% Interest" Appliances in SHOP 'n SWIPE @ GLORIETTA EXHIBIT

THIS SUMMER, enjoy the best and the latest in home entertainment and cooling appliances as Automatic Centre presents **"Shop 'n Swipe @ Glorietta" Appliance Exhibit.**

The sales exhibit, which will run from April 26 - May 9, 2003 at the lower level of Ayala Mall Glorietta 3 in Makati City, is the discriminating buyer's chance to own the finest appliances at very affordable prices. Come and see a wide array of top brands for your home, office, or business.

What's more, you can enjoy **reduced interest rates on installment** when you purchase with your credit card. Best of all, various appliances are available at **"0% Interest" installment plan:** Aiwa DVD and VCD mini components, Elba cooling ranges, JVC color TV's, video cameras and VCD players, Kolin airconditioners, LG aircons, refs, washing machines, flat TV and DVD systems, Panasonic video camera, Philips projection TV and flat TV's, Pioneer home theatre and VCD system, Sony Handycam and Cybershot models and Whirlpool appliances.

Participating brands include Carrier, Condura, Dowell, Kelvinator, Krups, Moulinex, National, Omron, Regal, Soehnle and Thermos.

This is your chance to own your dream appliances! Come to Automatic Centre's **"Shop 'n Swipe @ Glorietta" Appliance Exhibit!** Advt

Death of a heroine

BARE EYE

Recab Trinidad

THE TEXT message, sent yesterday morning, said it all: "Ate Eden defended King until the end. She repeatedly told the military to spare King, explaining that he was just a volunteer cameraman from Manila."

Ate Eden was Eden Marcellana, 31, sec-gen of the human rights watchdog Karapatan-Southern Tagalog who was abducted and later found dead with two gunshot wounds in the head in Mindoro Oriental.

Killed with her was peasant leader Eddie Gumatoy, chair of the Katipunan ng mga Samahang Magbubukid sa Timog Katagalugan.

As confirmed by King Catoy, the cameraman identified in the text message, Marcellana, obviously aware that her abductors were out to kill her, died a true heroine.

***

That was not very surprising.

This reporter happened to have met and talked with Marcellana at least a couple of times.

She was a lovely, quiet, composed lady who sincerely admired heroism.

The heroine in Eden Marcellana, therefore, did not come by accident.

She was often at the forefront of her group's fight for the rights of poor victims of military atrocities.

She was mainly instrumental in the documentation of human rights violations, personally filing complaints at government agencies.

When we searched for the body of my brother-in-law, Gil, a dedicated fighter for the masses who was slain with four others in a military operation in Daet a little over two years ago, Marcellana was there ahead of us in Tagkawayan, Quezon.

She had already talked and made arrangements with local authorities.

***

It was the first time I met her. And she readily struck me as a selfless, dedicated soul who would never hesitate to stand for the poor and oppressed.

I would learn later that she was married, with two kids.

I saw the pictures of her grieving children yesterday, in a desperate embrace with their father, and I was reminded of the children of peasants who have been uprooted by widespread military operations in the provinces, like Mindoro.

Late last year, I met these children who stay inside a campus in Dasmariñas, Cavite.

It was however only yesterday that I learned Marcellana was also instrumental in the relocation and care of these "internal refugees" who were forced to leave their localities at the height of military operations.

Unlike the uprooted children, Marcellana's kids may not have to leave home, but with their mother now dead, they have likewise been reduced into eternal refugees.

***

Second time I met *Ate* Eden was last year, during the showing at the Miriam College in Quezon City of the prize-winning docu "Alingawngaw ng Mga Punlo," a film produced by Southern Tagalog Exposure that detailed the savagery behind military operations in the countryside.

No, Marcellana, who helped gather and piece together details for the stirring documentary, was not at the Cultural Center of the Philippines when Alingawngaw was honored with an award. She was out in the field.

It was said that, as sec-gen of her group, she was very strict when it came to work attitude.

It was however noted by coworkers that she always made sure that everyone else had eaten before her.

Coworkers stressed that Marcellana always ensured the security and welfare of volunteers.

This great trait, of course, was confirmed by the text message which said she pleaded for the life of the cameraman who accompanied them on their mission to Mindoro.

She knew she would die but she chose to die with dignity.

She refused to be anybody's running dog, be it George Bush or GMA, until the very end.

Marcellana was too good to be true, as far as the military was concerned.

They kill born heroines, don't they?

Elorde widow almost duped by 2 'actors'

By Christian V. Esguerra

ACTOR "Mark Anthony Fernandez" phoned Laura Elorde, widow of the late boxing great Gabriel "Flash" Elorde, in her home in Parañaque last April 16.

The actor told Elorde, 55, that he was soliciting money to help his friend comedian Anjo Yllana raise funds for a sports program.

Mark Anthony, however, turned out to be Reggie Peña, 30, who was acting himself to trick Elorde into giving him money.

But police arrested Peña on Wednesday during an entrapment operation and found on him a marked P1,000 bill and checks that Elorde had issued to him.

Police said Elorde had also received a call last April 15 from a man who claimed to be from the office of Yllana, a city councilor. But when she called up city hall, she learned that the councilor was not soliciting money for any sports program.

Peña also admitted to police that he used the actors' names to dupe the widow.

SARS scare . . .

From page A24

the timely and proper response in case of an outbreak of the deadly disease in the city.

In Manila, the city council yesterday adopted a resolution requiring all people working in private and government hospitals, clinics and similar medical institutions to wear face masks while on duty.

"With the fear and dread that this disease continues to sow among our people, serious and stern efforts must be made to protect residents from contracting the illness by requiring all medical personnel to adopt stringent measures to protect the public at large," said Councilors Julio Logarta Jr. and Casimiro Sison, authors of the measure.

The two councilors said doctors, nurses and other medical staff should wear masks at all times when in contact not only with suspected SARS victims but with all patients who may have undetected symptoms.

The Department of Health is also watching over an X-ray technician at the San Lazaro Medical Center in Sta. Cruz who got sick after tending to Catalon.

Third district councilor Bernardito Ang has also proposed to authorize the mayor to use the city's calamity fund "to institute immediate and serious remedial and emergency measures" to check SARS.

The measures may include SARS screening methods, quarantine in case of outbreak, and setting up of isolation wards in city hospitals.

Ang's proposal has been referred to the committees on laws, appropriations and health for further study.

Typhoid . . .

From page A24

In a letter to Oliveros dated April 22, the firm contested the order, claiming that no water sample had been taken from Pump No. 6.

"Our pipelines are interconnected and water coming from these wells are likewise inter-mixed," said general manger Fernando Javier in the letter.

"If indeed there was contamination in one street it should have dissipated to other areas. However, bacteriological tests taken at random on several dates proved otherwise."

But residents of Evelyn Camus, Evangeline Pascual and Yolanda Dominguez Streets in BF Resort Subdivision have been struck hard by the typhoid outbreak, said village official Santos.

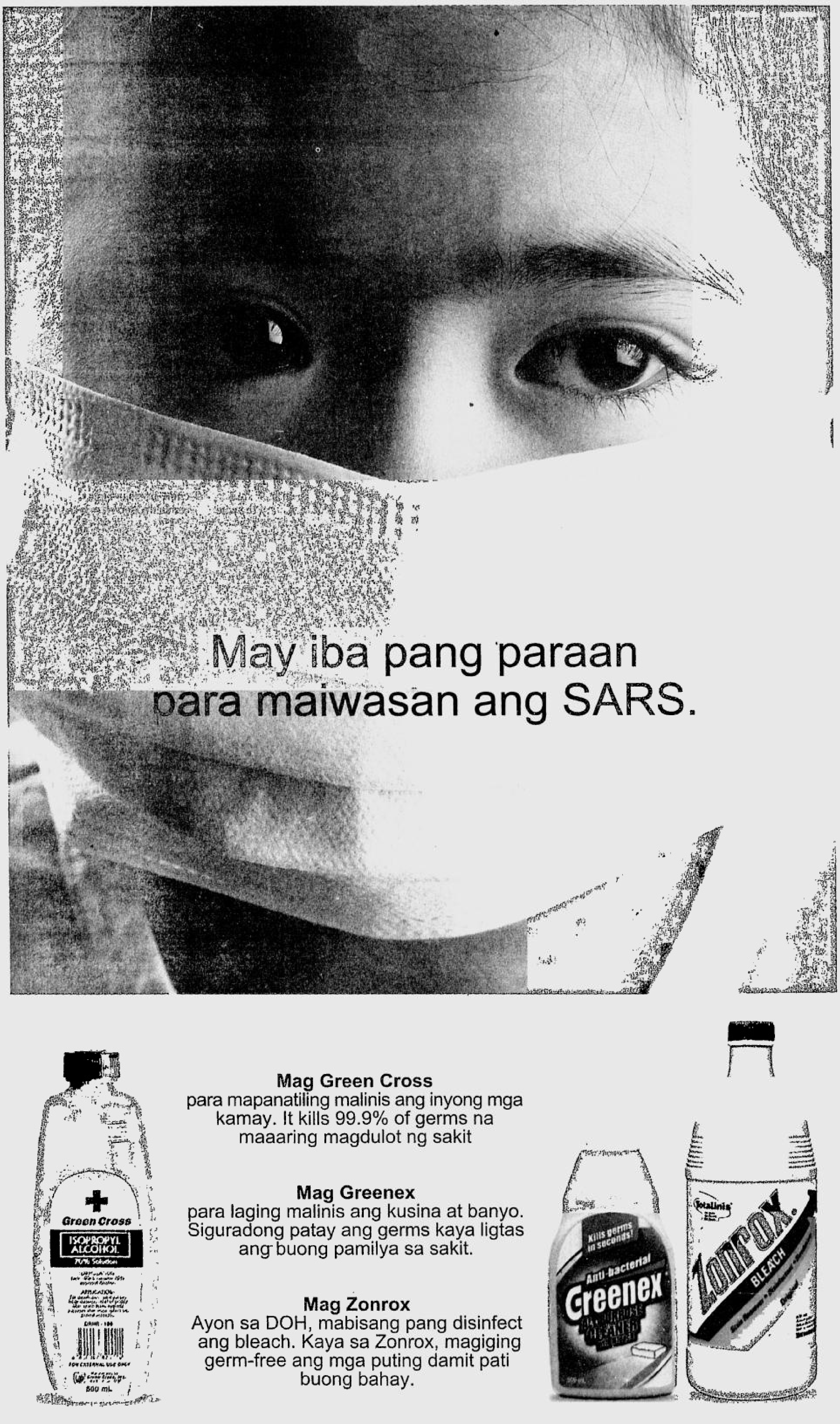
About 80 percent of the 500 people living on Evelyn Camus Street have already been downed by high fever beginning early this month, he said.

Santos added that the number of victims could easily be at least 1,000 because the village has roughly 5,000 households.

The Department of Health yesterday said that it has yet to receive a report on the typhoid outbreak from local health officials.

Las Piñas City health officials have been silent about the typhoid outbreak.

City health officer Oliveros and her assistant Dr. Eliezer Natividad could not be reached for comment yesterday.



Mag Green Cross
para mapanatiling malinis ang inyong mga kamay. It kills 99.9% of germs na maaaring magdulot ng sakit

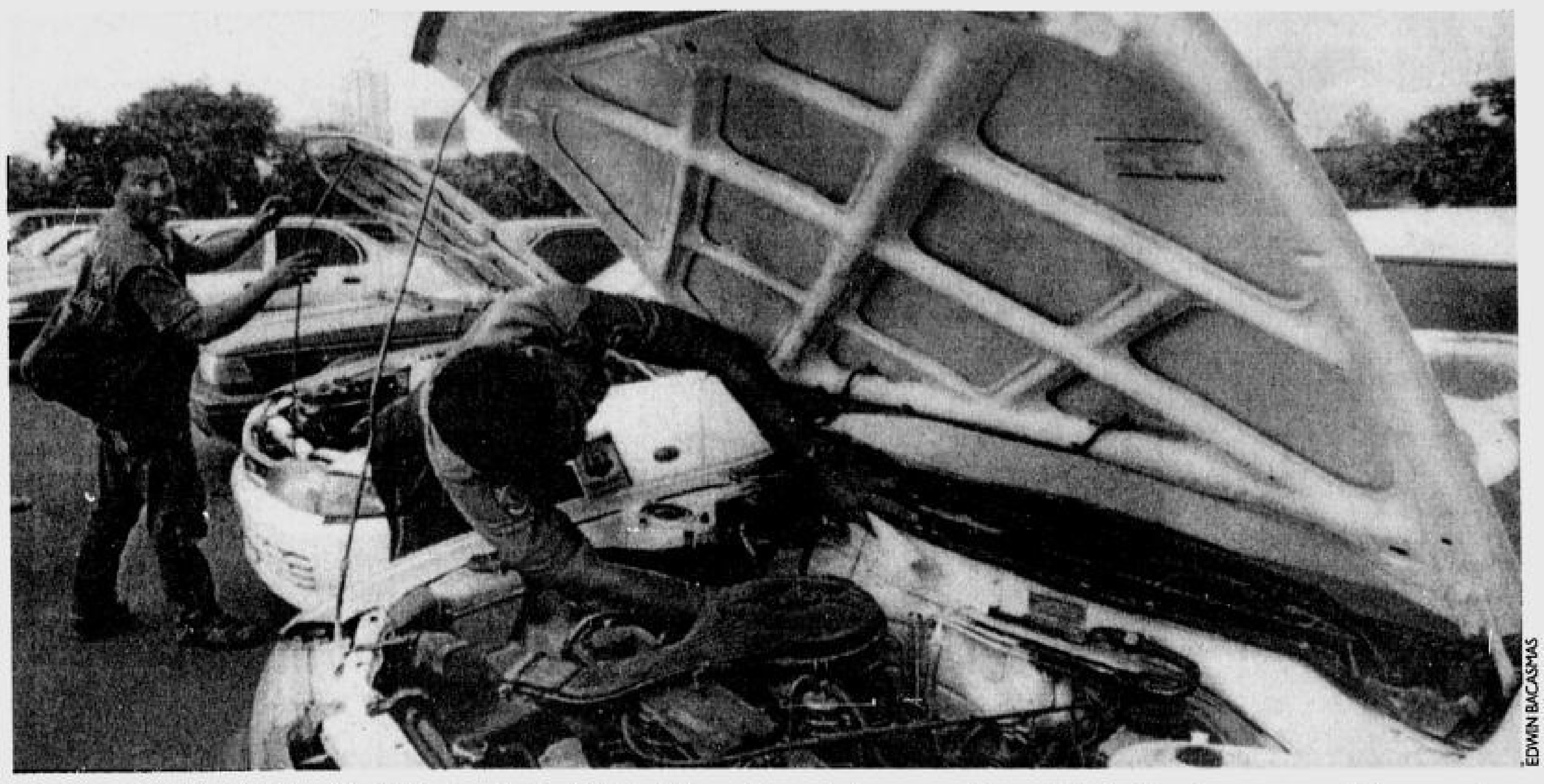
Mag Greenex
para laging malinis ang kusina at banyo. Siguradong patay ang germs kaya ligtas ang buong pamilya sa sakit.

Mag Zonrox
Ayon sa DOH, mabisang pang disinfect ang bleach. Kaya sa Zonrox, magiging germ-free ang mga puting damit pati buong bahay.

Car thieves know when, where to strike

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

First of three parts



A LABORATORY technician of the Philippine National Police in Camp Crame looks over a stolen vehicle that has been recovered. Recovered vehicles are hardly worth anything for these, most often than not, turn up battered and bullet-ridden after having been used in a criminal activity.

A JOURNALIST parks her car in front of her friend's house for a Christmas holiday lunch. Emerging from the gathering an hour later, she finds her car gone. A speedy trip to the police precinct and then on to the anti-carnapping task force that sends out a nationwide alert, yields no trace of the car.

A doctor leaving his home very early in the morning, for an emergency call perhaps, is stopped by armed men. At gunpoint, his car is forcibly taken away from him right at his gate.

A family goes to a mall and parks the van in the guarded pay-parking lot. Several hours of shopping later, the family finds the van gone. Mall management takes no responsibility for stolen parked cars and please, the car owners are told, next time read the fine print on the parking stub.

Life-threatening or not, the experience of being robbed of a sizeable, expensive property, such as a motor vehicle, leaves a victim traumatized.

What is the car theft capital of the Philippines? Where in Quezon City is your car likely to get stolen? Where might you find "chopped up" parts of your stolen car being sold as "original?" How does your stolen car get resurrected and acquire a new identity? Has a car thief ever been convicted and sent to prison?

Connivance

Among the many crimes that are committed blatantly and commonly every day, car theft stands out as the one that cannot be done alone.

Without the connivance of government agencies, car thieves cannot thrive and indulge in a lucrative criminal activity. In this case, stolen vehicles could become cash only if it goes through "legal" processing in government agencies, if government functionaries and law enforcers perform shut-eye operations.

The case of the journalist's car disappearing in the place where it was parked is classified, in police parlance, as "stolen while parked" or SWP.

The car being taken from the doctor at gunpoint at his gate is classified as "forcibly taken" or FT.

When rent-a-car operators lose vehicles to car renters, the case is listed under "failed to return" or FTR. The last one could fall under qualified theft.

Stolen while parked

There are many ways to lose a car as there are many ways to die by murder. The most common, as police blotters show, is SWP. This could happen in open public places, guarded parking lots, around churches, hospitals, restaurants, in front of homes. Vehicles are also taken from inside people's homes. Car thieves go inside, open the gate and drive away.

Car thieves know when and where to strike.

So cars dozing in the home garage are not 100 percent safe. A couple living on Malakas Street in Quezon City heard sounds coming from their driveway one night. When they peeped through the window, they saw their Pajero quietly moving out of their gate. When the Pajero reached the road, something must have locked the wheel and it couldn't be moved. Its movers fled under the cover of darkness.

The number of vehicles stolen while parked is higher than those forcibly taken. While poking a gun could produce faster results, stealing a parked car could be easy if one knows how.

Its practitioners have fine-tuned the operation so that all it takes is a click, a kick and a snip, if no one is watching.

It starts with a click of the keys or instrument to open the car door, then a kick on the anti-theft gadget if there is one. And, given a little more time, they even disable the anti-theft alarm system.

The M streets

A young lawyer sent this e-mail: "My husband, a one-time contributor to the INQUIRER's Youngblood column, lost our white 1996 Civic Vti, with plate number ULX 110, last Nov. 18, 2002, while it was parked at the corner of Matalino and Malakas Streets at the parking lot of McDonald's.

"He attended a meeting at Sulo Hotel at around 8:30 p.m. He was shocked to discover it was missing at 10:30 p.m.

"Since your vehicle was stolen on the same street, maybe we may even have the same perpetrators."

After a week, on Jan. 10, the same letter writer wrote again to say that she heard the news that "a carnapper named Wengweng Lazatin was arrested the previous week in the area where our cars were stolen."

"He was beaten up by several people after he was caught in the act of stealing another Honda. My husband inquired at Camps Karingal and Crame as to Wengweng's whereabouts, but nobody seemed to know where he was detained. Maybe it's hearsay or maybe it's a lead."

What is it about Malakas Street and the streets at the back of Quezon City Hall? The streets in Barangay Pinyahan and in Teachers Village with the names of Filipino traits that start with the letter 'M' are the favorite of car thieves.

The police blotter at Precinct 10 (where car thefts in the area are reported) is full of street names that start with the letter M, edifying names like Malakas, Matapat, Matalino, Matino, Marunong, Matimpiin, Matipuno.

On the other side of Edsa in Quezon City, car thieves' favorite haunts are Barangays Sacred Heart and Laging Handa, which have streets named after the Boy Scouts who perished in an air crash several decades ago. Tomas Morato and Timog avenues, which run through these barangays, are QC's lively restaurant and happy-hour strips. More vehicles are parked here on any given night than in other roads in Metro Manila.

Car thieves have many vehicles to pick from.

Recoveries

But it is not all bad news, as The Traffic Management Group (TMG) would like to stress.

The TMG, headed by Chief Supt. Danilo Mangila, is the police agency tasked to oversee police operations related to transportation. Under TMG is Task Force Limbas which deals with car theft, highway robbery and hijacking.

In 2002, 463 stolen motor vehicles (MVs) were recovered. This figure does not necessarily correspond with the same MVs stolen in the same year. Many recovered MVs have been on the stolen list for a number of years.

But figures on recovered vehicles are no comfort for those whose vehicles are never recovered. Or, if recovered, say, after years, months or just weeks after they were stolen, they are hardly worth anything if they are bloodied or bullet-ridden and abandoned after having been used for a criminal activity like bank robbery or assassination.

Carina Agarao, head of Crusade Against Violence, said that their small family car was stolen many years ago in Metro Manila when her husband, lawyer Clarence, was still alive.

"The car was recovered about six years later in Cebu in the possession of the family of an ambassador." Agarao wanted it back for old time's sake, to remember her husband by.

"Before returning it," Agarab said, "they stripped it of everything—the tires and accessories they said they put in."

The car was as good as junk when it was brought back to Manila. *(To be continued.)*

How do car thieves operate?

ORGANIZED gangs of car thieves are always on the lookout for cars to steal, according to Chief Supt. Danilo Mangila of the Traffic Management Group.

"*Parang nagsa*-shopping *sila* (it's like they're shopping)."

Once they have decided on their prey, the car thieves swoop down. If they decide to do an FT (forcibly taking), they use guns, intimidation and physical force. It's really a holdup or, in American parlance, a "carjack."

They point a gun at the driver of a parked car, or at the driver and passengers as they alight from or board their vehicle. Lucky are those whose vehicles are simply taken without they being harmed. With resistance, the situation could turn messy.

Most carnappers who do an FT also take the valuable possessions of their victims. Or worse, as in the case of a couple who visited their kin's grave at a cemetery, the wife was also taken by the car thieves to ensure, they warned the husband, that he would not report to the police right away. The abducted wife was released the following day.

Some car thieves tend to chase their chosen prey, usually in deserted streets, closing in on their victims and then firing a bullet or two. The frightened prey either steps on the brake and runs for his life, or he steps hard on the gas until he reaches a crowded street.

Why the violence? Because the vehicle the thieves spotted could be the right model and the right color, which they need to get. This is the "order" that has to be delivered to a client.

But that is not always the reason for the gun-poking or the chasing. It could simply be the easiest way to steal a car at a given moment because the driver and passengers look vulnerable, that is, they are in the "right place at the right time."

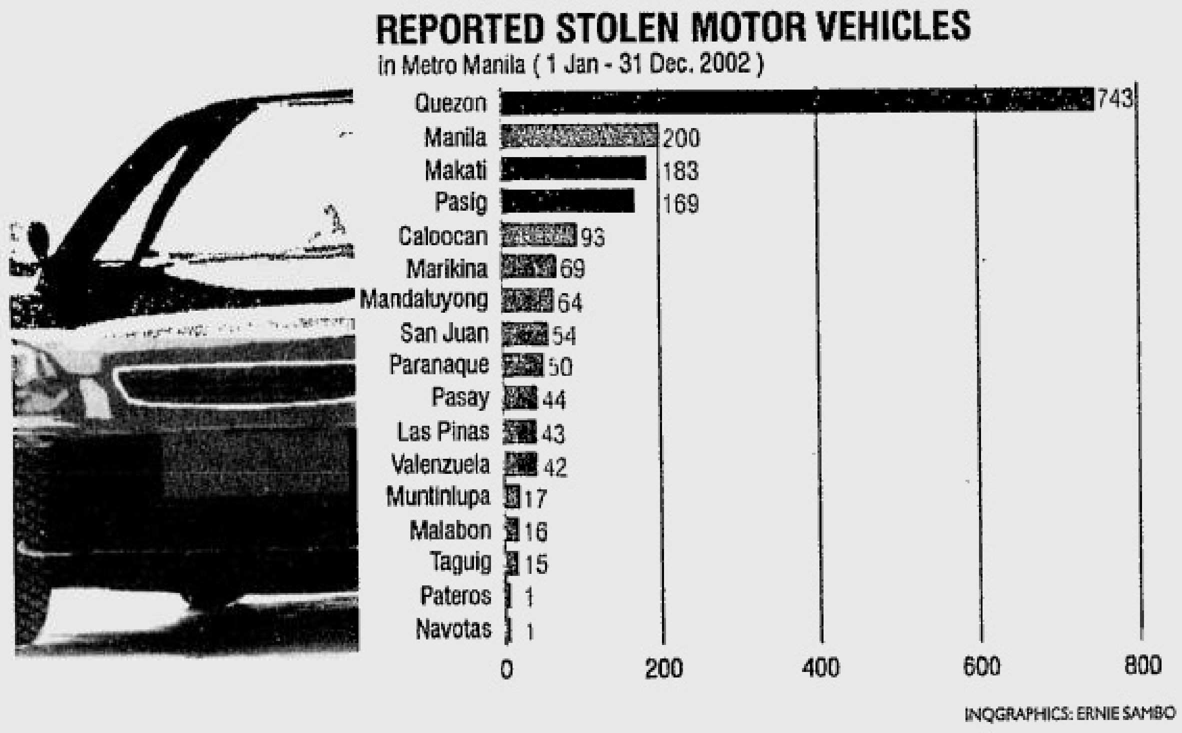
Like in the case of the monks who were driving home from the airport one night. Armed men caught up with them on the highway not far from the airport, made the victims lie face down on the pavement, then took the van and their money.

Another reason could be the need of the moment. How many taxis and cars on the road have been stopped, their drivers and passengers kicked out, and their vehicles used as a getaway in a crime just committed or to be committed soon?

A nun recalled how, some years ago, the car of her mother was stolen in Metro Manila then found several weeks later in the Ilocos region.

"It had blood splattered on the seats," she said. "It was used for a criminal activity."

Stealing motorcycles at gunpoint has lately been on the rise, with Indian nationals as victims. These victims not only lose their motorcycles, they also lose their daily collection from their "five-six" lending system and, sometimes, their lives. *Ma. Ceres P. Doyo*



INQGRAPHICS: ERNIE SAMBO

Quezon City: Carnap capital of RP

THE TRAFFIC Management Group (TMG) reports that from January to December 2002, a total of 2,707 motor vehicles (MVs) were reported stolen.

This translates to 7.4 MVs stolen every day. This is higher than 2001 (2,504).

As expected, Metro Manila or the National Capital Region, with its 13 cities and 4 towns, leads the country's 16 regions in the car theft department with 1,819 stolen MVs.

Next is Region 3 (324), followed by Region 2 (285), Region 6 (121). Region 10 (46) is a far fifth, followed by Regions 8 and 11 (14 each). Regions 13 and 14 have zero each. They don't steal cars over there as kidnapping pays more.

NCR figures for 2002 tell their own story (see table). Quezon City (743 stolen MVs) is tops in Metro Manila and the whole country, earning the title "carnap capital of the Philippines." It is followed by Manila (200), Makati (183), Pasig (169), Caloocan (93) and Marikina (69).

Although the word "carnap" should apply only to four-wheeled vehicles, motorcycles are included in the list of stolen motor vehicles.

Motorcycles stolen in 2002 (1,049) were up 11.6 percent when compared with 2001 (927).

This could be attributed to the increased number of two-wheelers in Metro Manila and the Northern Luzon provinces where smuggling thrives.

Stolen while parked vehicles comprised 76.7 percent of stolen vehicles in 2002, with motorcycles on top of the list, followed by vans, then by cars (including taxis), pick-ups, trucks, jeeps and jeepneys.

In the TMG report, Toyota cars and Yamaha motorcycles ranked highest among stolen vehicles. These are good picks because of their maneuverability and salability.

Car theft is slightly high on Tuesdays. Also, thieves prefer to operate after midnight. *Ma. Ceres Doyo*

Gov't to set up bomb agency to deal with terror threats

By Philip Tubeza

THE GOVERNMENT is planning to create an agency that will deal specifically with terrorist bombings anywhere in the country.

National Bureau of Investigation Director Reynaldo Wycoco said a proposal has been submitted to President Macapagal-Arroyo to create the "Philippine Center for Post-Blast Investigation (PCPBI)."

He said the proposal came from government security agencies in response to the recent bombings in Davao.

Wycoco said the agency would be made up of "qualified, highly trained, and fully-supported" mobile teams.

"They would be patterned after the FBI (US Federal Bureau of Investigation) and (United Kingdom's) Scotland Yard," Wycoco said.

"While the local police would secure the bomb site, the (PCPBI) teams would collect the scattered bomb parts and other evidence." Wycoco said only Metro Manila and the armed forces' Southern Command Headquarters in Zamboanga City have explosives and ordnance experts that could adequately deal with terrorist bombings.

"When there are bombings (in other parts of the country), these teams have to fly first into these places," he said.

Wycoco said the PCPBI teams would be based in Metro Manila and Mindanao.

He said the center would be headed by a police official with a ranking armed forces officer as his deputy.

Wycoco said that the center would be under the Office of the President.

METROBRIEFS

Cop hurt in robbery

PO3 ANEMIO Manubin of the Manila police was seriously injured when he tried to fight off seven jeepney robbers in Quezon City yesterday. Manubin, 47, of Kamias Road, Quezon City and assigned to the Western Police District's Mobile Division, was on board a passenger jeepney on his way home when the unidentified suspects struck at around 5 a.m. at the corner of Seattle and Aurora Boulevards in Cubao. After taking the cash and valuables of the other passengers, the robbers turned to Manubin. But the lawman refused to give in and tried to fight off the suspects. Three suspects then took turns stabbing the policeman. After the suspects fled, the other passengers took the victim to the UERM Hospital in Sta. Mesa.

Alcuin Papa

Man killed in QC

DOMINGO Teresano, 39, was stabbed to death by his brother-in-law, Roderick Terra, in Quezon City on Wednesday. Teresano's brother, Santiago, 28, was also injured in the incident, said PO1 Rommel Merino. Santiago was having an argument with Domingo's son when Terra arrived and tried to break off the fight at around 5 p.m. in the victim's house on Everlasting Street, Upper Payatas-A, police said. But Domingo turned on Terra and, together with Santiago, they started to beat up Terra. The suspect was forced to take out his knife and stab the victims. Terra is still at large.

Alcuin Papa

Fires raze 2 shops

A PLASTICS company and a furniture shop in Valenzuela City yesterday were razed in separate fires. Arson investigators pegged combined damage to property at P20.1 million. The first fire broke out at the HDPP Plastic Products owned by Romeo Renia at 2:45 a.m. yesterday. Grace Castillo, 25, told investigators that she was segregating assorted plastic products in the shop in Barangay Rincon, Malinta, when she saw fire

coming out of the stockroom. The fire spread to a 15-door apartment and a food products shop next door. The fire was put out at 8 a.m. On Wednesday afternoon, another fire gutted the OSY Furniture House of Melchor Ong, said FO2 Marlon Sison of the Valenzuela Fire Station. Witness Nicanor Villaraza told investigators that the fire originated from the stockroom of the 3-story establishment on T. Santiago Street, Veinte Reales, at 4:14 p.m.

Anne Luisa Villarico

ALA convention

THE AMERICAN Legion Auxiliary, Philippine department, will hold its 37th annual convention on April 26 and 27 in Dagupan City. Loreto "Inday" D. Melencio, ALA president, has asked Sen. Ramon B. Magsaysay, Jr. to be guest of honor. Other guests are Defense Secretary Gen. Angelo Reyes, Speaker Jose de Venecia, USDVA Director Barry Barker, Asst. Director John Skelley of the US Embassy, VFA President Col. Emmanuel de Ocampo, PVAO Administrator Col. Wilfredo Pabalan, VMMC Director Dr. Liberato Casison, Gov. Victor Agbayani and Dagupan Mayor Benjamin S. Lim. President Macapagal-Arroyo, who will be in Dagupan for the "Bangus Fiesta," will be greeted by ALA members.

SUERTRES 4 1 8

SIX DIGIT (In exact order)
2 7 7 2 6 5

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
1 10 25 26 44 45

METRO

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

SARS scare in Metro

Frantic search for Catalon's contacts continues

A PASSENGER is subjected by a health worker at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport to a forehead fever scan as part of measures to help check the spread of SARS here. ROGER MARGALLO

By Philip C. Tubeza, Leila B. Salaverria and Jerome Aning

AUTHORITIES in Metro Manila have drawn up strict measures to prevent the possible spread of the deadly Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) virus in the metropolis.

The measures include, among others, a frantic search for people who had probably met with Adela Catalon, the Filipino nursing attendant who arrived here from Canada on April 4.

Catalon died allegedly of SARS in a Manila hospital on April 14.

Before her death, however, Catalon reportedly visited relatives and contacted some other people in at least three places in Metro Manila.

Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay yesterday ordered barangay officials to identify faith healers and relatives whom Catalon might have met there before she died.

She was then searching for people who can help cure her ailing father. Catalon's father died Tuesday—officially of colon cancer but he was considered a suspected SARS case.

Aside from Makati, Catalon was reported to have gone also to a barangay in Quezon City and visited relatives in San Juan.

The report prompted the barangay head of the Quezon City area to call an emergency meeting yesterday morning to find out where particularly Catalon went and met, so proper action could be done.

Meanwhile, National Bureau of Investigation Director Reynaldo Wycoco yesterday said he has ordered all NBI regional offices to track down and monitor possible carriers of SARS.

Wycoco said NBI agents are also on the trail of all the persons who made contact with Catalon.

"The DOH (Departmet of Health) might not have enough personnel to do the monitoring so we are helping them," Wycoco said.

He said that the NBI would inform the DOH once probable SARS carriers are tracked down. It would be up to the health agency to quarantine these persons, he added.

Binay, for his part, said barangay leaders should immediately notify the city's Health Department once they had identified the persons whom Catalon had been in contact with so that health officials could implement the necessary safety measures.

At the same time, Binay asked the public to be calm while reports of SARS infections are still being verified.

"I would like to appeal for calm and sobriety. The report needs to be verified by our people, and the residents and transients of Makati should refrain from reacting to unverified reports, especially those sent through text messages," he said.

He added that the health department and the private sector have taken steps to ensure

SARS/ A22

Typhoid hits Las Piñas subdivision

By Christian V. Esguerra

TYPHOID fever has killed a barangay watcher, and about 300 residents of BF Resort Subdivision in Barangay Talon II, Las Piñas City have been downed by the disease, according to village officer Gerald Santos.

At least 10 typhoid fever patients from the city were admitted to the Las Piñas Doctors' Hospital last March, said Amy Bandala of the hospital's records division.

Maiko Abe, 12, and her brothers Yoshiki, 9, and Leo, 3, were confined at the Las Piñas Doctors' Hospital for a week because of typhoid fever.

"Doctors said we got the disease from the water we were drinking," the young Abe told the INQUIRER.

The typhoid outbreak started early this month when the BF Waterworks, a private firm, began operating Pump No. 12 on Barcelon Street in Phase 4 of the subdivision, said Santos.

The residents started suffering from high fever, nausea, loose bowel movement, and other symptoms of water borne diseases, he said.

BF Waterworks provides the main water supply for BF Resort Subdivision.

But Engineer Henry Mercaida, head of the firm's distribution and customer services department, yesterday denied that water from their pump was contaminated and triggered the typhoid outbreak.

He said water from Pump No. 12 went through standard treatment procedures.

But Mercaida admitted that the operation of Pump 12, which pushes 220-250 gallons per minute, could have blown off sediments in previously dormant pipelines and flushed the particles out of the faucets.

"We were expecting that the sediments would be shaken," he said. "But we were not expecting that it would reach this extent."

Mercaida maintained that the water from Pump No. 12 went through standard treatment procedures. The residents had also been properly advised about the possibility of dirty water coming out of the faucets for a given period, he said.

Last April 14, the city health office issued a sanitation order showing that BF Waterworks' pump on Yolanda Dominguez Street was positive for fecal coliform, the bacteria that could cause diseases such as hepatitis.

In the order, city health officer Esther Oliveros asked the firm to stop supplying water from that pump and to "re-pipe all the affected areas (and) disinfect or chlorinate" its water.

TYPHOID/ A2

Sign up for PLDT Vibe and you can win
GADGETS & GIMMICKS

Hurry! Sign up for a Vibe Plan to get instant freebies and a chance to win a trip to Boracay with a couple of friends, 100,000 pesos in cash and a computer package. As well as other prizes up for grabs. So don't waste your summer, sign up for PLDT Vibe Plan now.

GRAND DRAW PRIZES

1st PRIZE: Grand Vibestyle Package
- Weekend getaway for 4 to Boracay
- Roundtrip plane ticket for 4
- P100,000.00 cash tax free
- NEO QNOTE Starter Notebook
- Canon portable printer and scanner
- Microsoft software
  - Windows XP Home Edition
  - Microsoft Office XP Standard Edition
  - Microsoft software games

2nd PRIZE: Watersports Package
- Aqua adventure to Bohol Beach Club for 3
- Roundtrip plane tickets for 3
- P30,000.00 worth of Nike products
- P6,000.00 worth of Penshoppe swimwear
- One unit of Palm Zire

3rd PRIZE: Mall Spree Package
- Weekend stay at a 5 star hotel for 4
- P30,000.00 worth of Penshoppe products
- Free movie and Time Zone passes for 4
- P8,000.00 worth of Nike products
- One unit Palm Zire

WEEKLY PRIZES
- P2,000.00 worth of Nike products and P2,000.00 worth of Penshoppe products

Instant freebies for every approved plan subscription:
- 1 month free (to be credited to the 2nd month billing)
- Free Level Up cd with 1 month free Oz World gaming
- Free/discounted NIIT web courses

PLDT

OZ WORLD NIIT PENSHOPPE Canon NEO Office XP

MECHANICS.
1. Customer must avail or subscribe to PLDT Vibe Plan. Subscription can be done via the following options:
   a. Call 171;
   b. On-line application to www.pldtvibe.com;
   c. Visit to any PLDT Business Office.
2. Approved new plan subscribers get the following instant freebies:
   a. Plan 20 (20 consumable hours, P550/mo):
      i. 1 month free (free month to be credited on the second month billing);
      ii. 1 free Level Up starter CD with one month Oz World free gaming;
      iii. Discounted NIIT web course.
   b. Plan 45 (45 consumable hours, P1100/mo)
      i. 1 month free (free month to be credited on the second month billing);
      ii. 1 free Level Up starter CD with one month Oz World free gaming;
      iii. Free NIIT basic web course.
3. New plan subscribers instantly get computer-generated raffle entry/ies to the Gadgets and Gimmicks promo. Number of raffle entry/ies depend on the plan type availed:
   a. Plan 20 – 1 raffle entry
   b. Plan 45 – 2 raffle entries
4. New and existing subscribers (Post Paid Plan and Pay-Per-Surf) may increase their Vibe entry/ies by referring friends to subscribe to PLDT Vibe Plan. They just have to log on to www.pldtvibe.com, click on the icon that will link them to referral page. They have to put in their friend's name, e-mail address and PLDT phone number. Every approved online referral earns them an additional Vibe entry.
5. Only entries received until May 30, 2003, 7:00pm are qualified to join.
6. Raffle entries will be drawn electronically. Draw will be held in PLDT's Main Office in Ramon Cojuangco Bldg., Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City in the presence of a DTI representative.
7. There will be five weekly draws and a grand draw scheduled as follow:

April 28 (Monday)	1st weekly draw
May 5 (Monday)	2nd weekly draw
May 12 (Monday)	3rd weekly draw
May 19 (Monday)	4th weekly draw
May 26 (Monday)	5th weekly draw
May 31 (Saturday)	Grand Draw

8. Non-winning entries per draw still qualify for the succeeding weekly draws and grand draw.
9. An applicant can only win once in a draw. If a name wins more than once, he gets the bigger prize.
10. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash.
11. All prizes are tax free.
12. GMA winners may claim their prize from PLDT's Marketing Services at the 5th floor of Ramon Cojuangco Bldg. Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City. To claim the prizes, they must present valid ID and notification letter. For provincial winners, PLDT will send their respective prizes to their address via courier.
13. Gift certificates are valid for one (1) year from date of issuance.
14. Redemption period for the prizes will be 60 days from notification.
15. Prizes not claimed after 60 days will be forfeited.

See flyers and posters for more details. Per DTI-NCR permit # 1644 series of 2003.

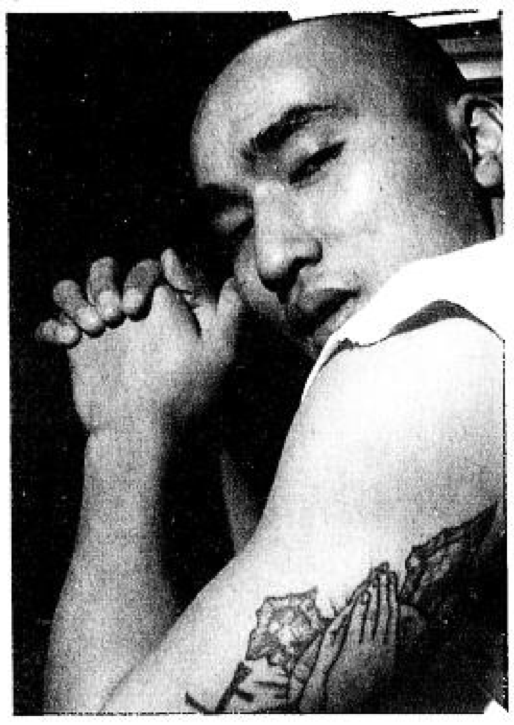
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Assistant Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**

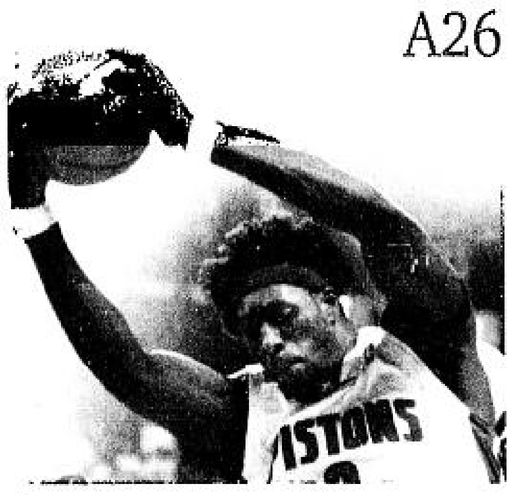
USED CAR LOANS!
Models 1991 and UP
AS LOW AS 9% PER ANNUM UP TO JUNE 30, 2003
Also cash loans w/o taking your car!
Tels.: 373-9913 · 372-6526 · 413-5777 · 372-6898 · 373-3901 loc 8220 /8302/8303
AMA BANK
AMA Rural Bank of Mandaluyong, Inc.
The Largest Used-Car Loan Bank in the Country Today
MEMBER PDIC. Deposits insured up to P 100,000.00 per Depositor.

Palaro in peril in troubled Lanao

WHAT'S INSIDE



It's Cool Cat, not Cool Cash A26



Detroit's Wallace named NBA top defender anew A28

Pistons overcome McGrady, tie series A28

Golf duel pits Jennifer Rosales vs Se Ri Pak A32

Tour Pilipinas hits the road tomorrow A30

By Marc Anthony Reyes

OFFICIALS of Palarong Pambansa host Lanao del Norte and the Philippine Sports Commission are looking"with deep concern" at the spate of violence that struck the province yesterday and could affect the holding of the annual games.

Sports officials said "they are trying to assess the situation in coordination with the military and police" even as they await formal statements from Lanao del Norte Gov. Imelda Quibranza-Dimaporo and PSC chair Eric Buhain.

The annual Palaro is slated May 4-11 in Tubod, Lanao del Norte.

Only President Arroyo has the power to decide whether to hold, delay or scrap the Palaro, which Lanao del Norte had been trying to host as early as 1977.

Members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front launched two attacks in the province yesterday and threatened to wreck the long preparation for the Palaro. *(Story on page A1)*

Lanao del Norte Rep. Alipio Badelles described the attacks as tragic in the province's bid to host the Palaro.

"It would be the biggest loss for Lanao del Norte if the Palaro will not push through," he said.

The province has already built the Mindanao Civic Center, which will serve as major venue of the Palaro, at a cost of P500 million.

Located near scenic Panguil Bay, the MCC boasts of world-class sports facilities over an 18-hectare complex that now serves as a top local attraction.

It was at the same MCC where Gov. Dimaporo had presided over a recent conference where she declared "it was all systems go" for the Palaro.

She and her husband, Rep. Abdullah Dimaporo, had been trying to bring the games to Lanao del Norte but their efforts had been derailed by politics,financial crisis and the insurgency problem.

At least 5,000 student-athletes have already confirmed their participation to the Games this year.

Lanao del Norte military chief Col. Ernesto Boac and policeregional director Laut Sarip had earlier planned to start implementing coordinated security measures before yesterday's attacks..

Experience a hot combo
NOKIA
FREE Nokia 6100 & Camera Headset
Get it now at the...
hub
by Globe Telecom
......Be first.
Globe HANDYPHONE
NOKIA CONNECTING PEOPLE

Get a FREE sizzling Nokia 6100 and camera headset bundle with every ⓖTalk plan!

Camera headset is also free with every Nokia 6100 [illegible] purchase at other ⓖ Plans.

Available at the Hub and selected Globe Telecom Business Centers (approved by DTI-NCR): Alabang Town Center • Festival Mall • Park Square • Robinson's Place Manila • Robinsons Galleria • Shangri-La • Tower 1 • Baguio • SM Pampanga • SM Bacoor • SM Cebu • Bacolod • SM Davao • Davao Victoria Plaza

Hurry promo runs until April 27, 2003.
2 year minimum subscription required, terms and conditions apply

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1608. Series of 2003

2nd level Glorietta 4 Ayala Center, Makati • 3rd level Power Plant Mall Rockwell, Makati • 5th level The Podium, Ortigas Center

onstage 2nyt

Cowboy Grill

LAS PIÑAS ☎ 801.7644	MR. ROXY CRO MAGNON	APR.29-FHM-COW BABES
MABINI ☎ 525.1474	HEADWORKZ PHYRIGIAN/ZEST	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MALATE ☎ 521.8143	MUSIC CIRCUIT SAINTS	NO ENTRANCE FEE
NOVALICHES ☎ 936.9757	J. BROTHERS STREETLIFE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
BIÑAN ☎ (049)511.7268	POWER ON PERFECT STRANGERS	NO ENTRANCE FEE
Partyplace SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA	PARKLIFE	MAY 16 - ROUND THE CLOCK BIKINIS W/ HALINA PEREZ & TRACY TORRES ☎ (045)961.3360
TIA MARIA'S	TIA MARIA'S	TIA MARIA'S
JUPITER ☎ 890.4735	O 2 7 FIRST SIGHT	NO ENTRANCE FEE
REMEDIOS ☎ 522.0429	VERSE 2 3RD DEGREE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
TOMAS MORATO ☎ 371.1473	FU FLAVA MAJOR 7	NO ENTRANCE FEE

APR.25,FRIDAY 422.9877

Rampaging Red Bull goes for 10th straight

VILLANUEVA

GAMES TODAY *(Philsports Arena)*
5:00 p.m.—Shell vs FedEx
7:30 p.m.—Red Bull vs Talk N Text

STANDINGS	W	L
Group A		
Alaska	8	4
Sta. Lucia	6	6
FedEX	5	5
San Miguel	5	5
Group B		
Red Bull	10	1
Talk N Text	6	5
Coca-Cola	5	5
Ginebra	4	8
Shell	2	9

By Roy Luarca

HOMER Se and Enrico Villanueva provided a glimpse of the future for Batang Red Bull last Sunday.

Tonight, they try to prove that they could really help carry the Thunder to even loftier heights in the PBA Samsung All Filipino Cup.

Red Bull, riding on a franchise-record 9-game winning run, is aiming for a sure top-five finish when it battles Talk N Text at 7:30 at the Philsports Arena in Pasig City.

Apart from Willie Miller, last year's MVP, and his usual starters, Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao will be pinning his hopes on Se, the promising sophomore, and Villanueva, the prized rookie.

The 25-year-old Se and the 22-year-old Villanueva are both wide-bodied 6-foot-5s. Both are known for their tough defense and rebounding prowess.

Against the Tigers, they also showed their offensive sock with Se, formerly of the Cebu Gems in the defunct MBA, topscoring with 18 and Villanueva, last year's UAAP MVP, contributing 14.

Se and Villanueva were pleased with their efforts against the Tigers, but they promised to do even better in the remaining games of the elimination round.

"We really need to step up in every game to help our team," said Villanueva.

For Se, working out with the team's big guys (Davon Harp, Mick Pennisi and Nelson Asaytono) during practice is a motivation.

"We're being pushed during practice. All of us really give it our best to help one another improve," Se said.

The Thunder are on track in eclipsing the Alaska Aces' 13-game winning streak set in 1996, but Guiao isn't putting pressure on his wards.

All he wants them to do is play doubly hard whenever fielded.

Thus far, Guiao's formula is working.

The offensive load has been well-distributed and many players get ample playing time.

Guiao gave Se and Villanueva a break. He was satisfied with what he saw.

ONE ON ONE: MIKE CORTEZ

It's Cool Cat, not Cool Cash

By Alaine Antonio

(**mike cor·tez** /mîk kor·tez/ n. 1 Mike Salonga Cortez. 2 known for his knee-high socks. 3 famous for his smooth moves syn. Cool Cat)

AFTER a full hour of pre-interview jitters (32 minutes of roundtrip bathroom visits and 27 desperate seconds of atempting to remember basketball jargon) Mike Cortez walked in for our much-delayed interview at the Moro Lorenzo Sports Center .

It's my first official assignment for the Philippine Daily Inquirer as a student trainee and, despite the anxiety, it could not be any better.

The opportunity to interview Mike Cortez was a bonus.

Since his introduction at the UAAP, I began invading the basketball world where the testosterone level is high.

Being a rookie to basketball mania, I am on my way to becoming one of its fanatics. And I am fortunate enough to meet the man who first fueled my interest in the game.

A review of his achievements showed that 15 years of playing had brought Cortez various awards.

He earned titles such as UAAP 2000 Rookie of the Year as well making it to the Mythical 5.

He was UAAP Sportsmanship Award recipient and Finals MVP in 2001.

The following year, he brought home PBL's Best New Comer Award, while making it to the Mythical 5 on the 65th season of the UAAP.

Soon enough, Cortez, now gaining a reputation as a Cool Cat, became a household name.

Not difficult to see why.

However, with every stretch of fame came intrigue. Catching bad publicity while playing for the La Salle Green Archers until 2002, Cortez was accused of selling what would have been the Archers' fifth straight UAAP title for P2 million.

Ateneo, in the meantime, was only too happy to end their 15-year title drought.

"I'd like to deny that" Cortez told me, repeating a firm stand made in previous interviews.

He did leave the country in an attempt to escape the controversy only to return later as this season's No. 1 PBA draft pick.

And, as evidenced by his rise in the pro league, the basket is still good for Mike Cortez.... in greener pasture.

"Overwhelming! It's one of my dreams. I didn't really think I'd go number 1," Cortez bared.

Of course, despite being rated the top pick, he still managed to stay grounded.

"I don't really look at it as being number one. Because being number one or being on the last page [means] you still got to show that you play."

Instead of finishing his last year in La Salle University, he signed up with the Alaska Aces.

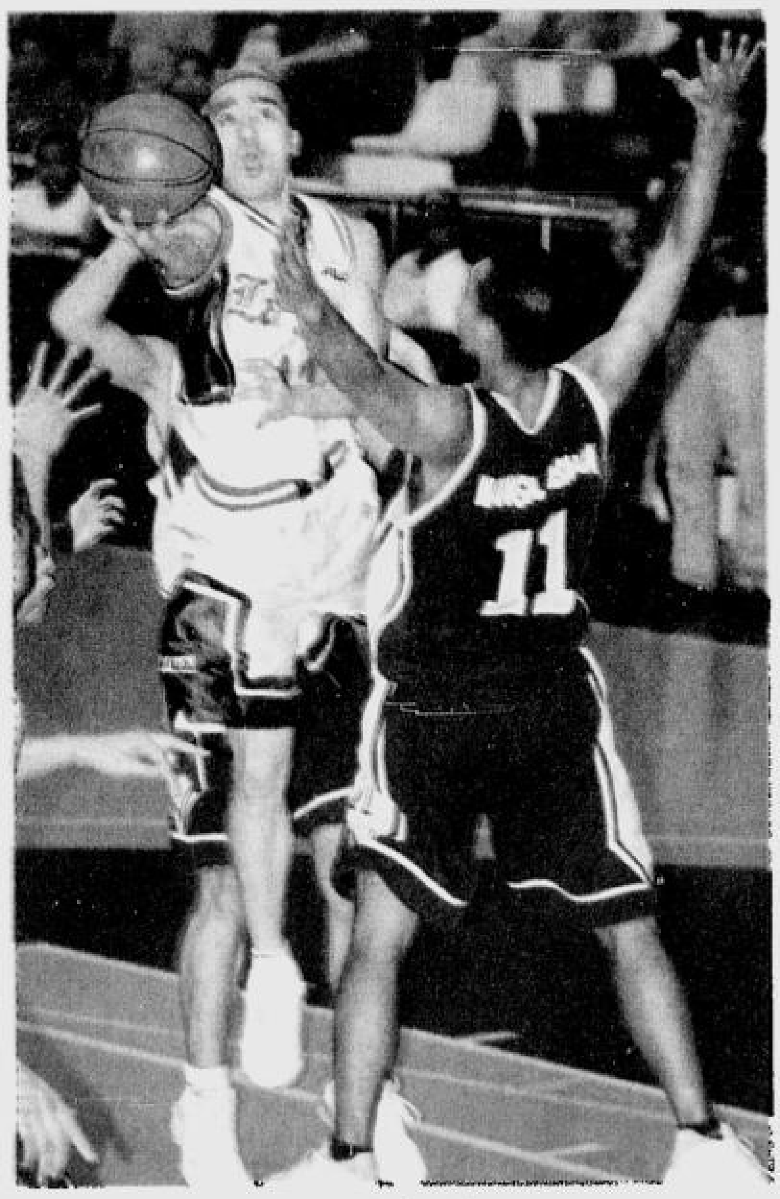
But, looking back, was his decision to leave an attempt to wash off the bitter aftertaste of the rumors?

"Not at all," he stressed. "I miss them [La Salle] a lot and wish I could play for them one more year," Cortez said.

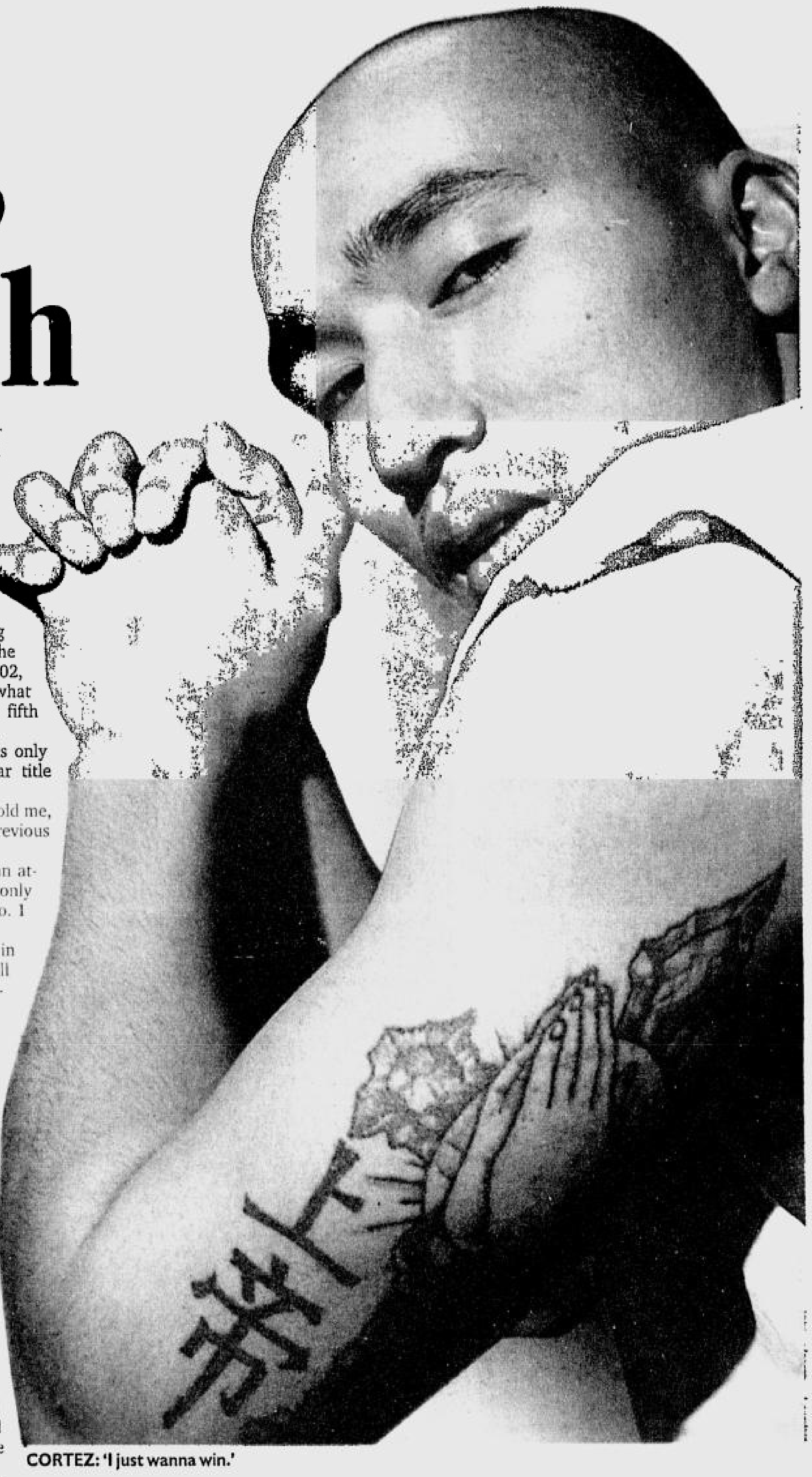
He also assured that he was not giving up his studies. "I didn't give up college. I'm still planning to go back."

In the meantime, he is putting education on hold to concentrate on playing for the Aces and to spend more time with his family. (Cortez, 22, is married to his high school sweetheart, with whom he has an 11-month-old boy).

Out on the playing court, he continues to climb up the ranks as one of the top performing rookies this season.



CORTEZ as a Green Archer: I miss La Salle.



CORTEZ: 'I just wanna win.'

Tim Cone, his coach at Alaska, would be the least surprised if Cortez bags this year's rookie award.

"Mike is very special. He's done all the things we expected him to do, actually even more."

With an average of 13.6 points, 4.8 assists and 1.4 steals per game, Cortez could indeed land the coveted award.

Even Ali Peek, Cortez's teammate at Alaska, had nothing but good words for the fast-rising rising rookie.

"I didn't realize he was able to do some of the things he's getting away with. There's nothing but greater things to come in the future as far as Mike's concerned," Peek explained.

Explained Cortez himself: "I don't wanna be cocky. It's still a long way until they decide. I'm not really into individual statistics. I just wanna win because if we win, then everyone's happy."

Sitting across Mike, listening to his slang accent, I have decided to write-off my initial impression of – LATE COMER – and replace it with something else.

Once subjected to intrigue and labeled as Cool Cash, he managed to surpass all trials. Yes, call him Cool Cat.

(**mike cor·tez** /mîk kor·tez/ n. 1 future business owner. 2 devoted father. 3 affectionate husband. 4 down-to-earth superstar. 5 a success story.)

SARS threatens Asian cage invitational

THE SARS menace is threatening to wreak havoc on the Asian Invitational tournament which the Philippine Basketball Association is set to stage middle of this year.

Officials of the Japanese Basketball League (JBL) yesterday expressed reservations on sending a club team overseas at a time when the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak is at its meanest.

In an official communication to PBA commissioner Noli Eala, Takehiro Senshu, manager of public relations and international affairs of the JBL, inquired whether the PBA could postpone the staging of the invitational series until the SARS outbreak in Asia has subsided.

"News of the SARS outbreak is always on Japanese television," the JBL official wrote. "Is there a possibility of postponing the tournament?"

But Dave Coros of the PBA media bureau said there is no way the league can grant JBL's request since a postponement would disrupt the schedule for the rest of the season.

If worst comes to worst, Coros said they would most likely scratch out a Japanese entry from the Asian Invitationals.

The JBL is supposed to send the Niigate Alberox, a top team in the Japanese Super League, to the nine-team tournament tentatively set for July 20 to Aug. 15.

"Commissioner Eala understands the JBL's concern," said Coros. "But there is no way we can postpone the staging of the tournament since the schedule for the season is already tight as it is."

The PBA, though, is looking at other options for the three spots allotted for foreign entries, having extended invitations to top university squads from Canada, club teams from Australia and Italy and a club team from the South Korean commercial league.

According to the PBA media bureau, the league is expecting a response soon from the Simon Fraser University and the University of the British Colombia, which is reportedly led by a Fil-Am player, as well as from the Australian, Italian and South Korean basketball federations.

John-O closes in on semis berth

GAMES TODAY *(New Cebu City Coliseum)*
5 p.m.—Viva Mineral Water vs ICTSI
7 p.m.—Nutrilicious vs Hapee Toothpaste

JOHN-O's fluid running game wore down Montaña Pawnshop, 81-64, yesterday as it closed in on an automatic semifinals berth in the Sunkist-PBL 2003 Unity Cup at the Makati Coliseum.

With Marc Macapagal and Celino Cruz spearheading the attack, John-O netted 13 points on fastbreaks and 14 on turnovers en route to its sixth win in eight games.

Macapagal contributed 15 points, 13 of them in the second half, and Cruz added 14.

Dennis Madrid and Ricky Calimag chipped in 13 points each while Ranidel de Ocampo, pacesetter in the MVP race, contributed 12 as John-O showed its depth.

Montaña, which got 16 points and 12 rebounds from Jon Dan Salvador, fell to 3-4.

Earlier, Welcoat Paints applied a suffocating full-court pressure to beat Blu Star Detergent, 88-76.

National pool member Willy Wilson topscored for Welcoat with 21 and was supported by Ariel Capus with 19.

The 6-foot-3 Wilson, who made 10 points in the final quarter, also grabbed five rebounds, issued five assists and had three steals.

Welcoat improved to 3-5 and must hurdle its last two matches against John-O and ICTSI to keep its bid for for the three automatic semifinal berths.

The Detergent Kings are also at 3-5 following their fourth consecutive defeat.

"I commend the boys for stepping up in this game, especially Wilson and Capus. *Nakita rin namin yung* weak points ng Blu in its game against LBC-Batangas so we went for a full-court man-to-man because we saw their players couldn't sustain their momentum under tough pressure for the whole 30 minutes," said Welcoat coach Leo Austria.

Scores:

WELCOAT 88—Wilson 21, Capus 19, Pingris 12, Latoreno 10, Patrimonio 9, Tangkay 5, Torrente 5, Kalaw 3, Orfracio 3, Santos 1, Garcia 0, Cuan 0.

BLU 76—De la Cuesta 22, Pascual 16, Prior 14, Codamon 8, Buenaventura 5, Taguines 5, Gamboa 4, Hernandez 2, Garcia 0, Lopez 0, Mendez 0, Gatumbato 0.

Quarters: 19-19, 42-34, 67-56, 88-76.

Paradorn in Top 10: A dream come true

LONDON— A year ago Paradorn Srichaphan was languishing at 68th in the world rankings, little known even in his native Thailand where tennis was a minor sport played by an elite few.

But a second-round Wimbledon meeting with a certain Andre Agassi last June not only ended his anonymity but also propelled him up the rankings.

The promise Paradorn showed in his stunning dismantling of Agassi's game on a warm summer's day was finally realised on Monday when he become the first Asian man to enter the world top 10 since rankings were introduced in August 1973.

PARADORN: First Asian in tennis Top 10. REUTERS

"It has always been my dream to reach the top 10. It is extra special for me as I am the first Asian to ever achieve this," Paradorn told Reuters in an interview on Wednesday.

"If I look back over the recent years when this has been my goal, after a lot of hard work the results have come and I have begun to win a lot of matches." For Asia, it has been a long wait.

Before Paradorn came on the scene, India had been at the forefront of Asian tennis with Ramanathan Krishnan reaching the Wimbledon semi-finals twice in the 1960s before the advent of rankings.

Krishnan's son Ramesh also broke into the top 30 in the 1980s while Vijay Amritraj achieved a career-high 16th in the world 23 years ago.

More recently, Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi have been the toast of the continent after their success on the doubles circuit, which includes three grand slam wins together.

But none of the Indian players have come anywhere near to breaking into the elite top 10 singles club.

With tennis considered one of the five most popular sports in the region, it was perhaps surprising that a breakthrough at the top had not been achieved earlier by the men -- especially since Japan's Kimiko Date had cracked the women's top 10 in January 1994.

But Paradorn finally rectified that situation this week.

"He is definitely a top-class player," Ramesh Krishnan told Reuters in an interview. "Last year certainly was his breakthrough year and this year he has been able to consolidate that...(and) he has shown his ability to play under pressure." The soft-spoken Thai started off 2003 in sparkling form, triumphing in Chennai in January, and reached the semi-finals of the Nasdaq-100 Open in Miami last month.

Having charmed fans around the world with his Thai "wai" greeting, putting his hands together and bowing to the crowd at the end of each game, Paradorn is proving to be the role model that Asian tennis has desperately needed. "Earlier Asia adopted (American) Michael Chang but that was only the next best thing," said Ramesh.

"It is good (for Asia) someone like Paradorn has come through now. You need someone from your own society (to provide a boost for the sport)." Ten months and three titles on from that Wimbledon upset victory, Paradorn mania grips his home country and Thai children are begging their parents for tennis rackets.

"I hope that I have set a precedent for all the young Asian players. I hope they will see what I have achieved and think that if I can do it, so can they," said Paradorn.

As a sign of his growing stature in Thai society, Paradorn was presented with a red diplomatic passport by the Thai prime minister last year.

The 23-year-old Paradorn was also named "Thai of the Year" in 2002, ahead of several pop stars and politicians, after taking his maiden ATP title in Long Island and winning the Stockholm Open.

Paradorn has also captured the imagination with his superstitions, pulling on a red shirt when attempting to close out a match and using the same changing cubicle throughout a tournament.

While Paradorn's achievement is taking Asian tennis in the right direction, he believes plenty more still needs to be done to develop the right pedigree of players.

"If I compare Asian tennis to European or American tennis, we have a long way to go," said the world number 10.

"The competition isn't there. Asia doesn't have many tennis players or tournaments. I hope my success will contribute to raising the level of Asian tennis." Ramesh agreed: "Things have changed somewhat from our time.

But the problem still is to get good training, sparring partners et cetera. At some point one still has to leave home and go to Europe if he is to make a name for himself." For Paradorn, this week's breakthrough should provide him with the ideal platform to take his game to the next level.

The only way he can do that, according to Ramesh, is to prove himself in the grand slam events, where he has yet to progress beyond the third round.

"His performances in grand slam events have not been that great," said Ramesh.

"He needs to be up there with the Lleyton Hewitts, Marat Safins and (Roger) Federers.

"The name of the game is how you play in the grand slams.

Reuters

United Auctioneers, Inc.
TRUCKS VANS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT
PUBLIC AUCTION
MAY 17, 18 & 19, 2003
Sale starts at 8:30 AM SHARP!
Catch The Best At
SUBIC BAY
PHILIPPINES
INSPECTION DATES: MAY 10 to 16, 2003
REGISTRATION DATES: MAY 10 to 19, 2003
HITACHI EX100WD WHEEL EXCAVATORS 50 EXCAVATORS
35 PAYLOADERS — TCM 830
25 ROLLERS — SAKAI SV91 VIBRATORY ROLLER
20 GRADERS — MITSUBISHI MG3H
40 WING VANS — FUSO 10W WING VAN
250 DUMP TRUCKS — 2000 ISUZU DUMP TRUCK
40 TANKERS — ISUZU FRR TANKER
FUSO 3.8 TONS
ISUZU NPR BACKHOE TRUCK
FUSO FIGHTER 7TONS CRANE
SUBIC BLDG. 1455 ARGONAUT HIGHWAY, SUBIC BAY FREEPORT, PHILIPPINES TEL NOS: [047] 252-1129 • 252-1155 to 58 FAX NO: [047] 252-5569
MANILA TEL NOS: [02] 9297868 • 9205501 • 426-3908 • 453-7470 / 74
FAX NO: [02] 929-0260 E-MAIL: info@uauctioneers.com WEBSITE: www.uauctioneers.com

Dream rematch: Weir vs Mattiace

BARRINGTON, Rhode Island— Masters champion Mike Weir could have a rematch against Len Mattiace in June.

Both will play in the $1.2 million CVS Charity Classic June 23-24 at the Rhode Island Country Club. Weir beat Mattiace in a playoff to win the green jacket earlier this month.

"I think a lot of fans would love to see a dream pairing of Mike and Len Mattiace," said Brad Faxon, tournament co-host and PGA Tour veteran. "Both the fans and (CVS CEO) Tom Ryan would love that. But we want everyone to be comfortable.

"We will talk to Mike and to Lenny before we set the pairings and see who they would like to play with."

Another possible pairing could be Weir and Rich Beem, the reigning PGA champion, officials said.

Reuters

Latest From The Sky
Nestlé
BEAR BRAND
Kitefest 2003

Kitefest Info Bits

Flying Around the World

In China, the ninth day of the month is a "Kite Day" and is considered a big holiday.

Balinese Hindus believe that kite-flying is one of the favorite hobbies of their gods.

In the traditional Korean kite-flying season, kites with the words "Bad Luck Away and Good Luck Stay" are flown as high as the line will allow and then released. It is believed that each of these freed kites will carry away its owner's bad luck.

In Santiago de Secatepequez, Guatemala, people celebrate "All Saints Day" by flying large circular kites over the graves of the departed, "to release their souls".

Kite "dog fights" are popular in eastern parts of the world, especially in India and Japan. In the competition, kites with ground glass glued to their lines try to cut the lines of other kites, sending them crashing down. The last kite left flying is declared the winner.

Watch out for BEAR BRAND KITEFEST 2003!
Happening next at Baguio on April 27, 2003.

Because you love your car.
Ambi Pur Car
The perfume for your car.
Valentine's Day '03
With Julia in Baguio
Our 1st Anniversary
Julia's first car wash....
What to get Julia:
Ambi Pur Car ✓
17" Alloy Mags
Side Skirts
NEW!
Pamper your baby on wheels with the only car freshener with real perfume.
Aqua
Vanilla Bouquet
Anti-Tobacco
Pacific Air

Pistons overcome McGrady, tie series

AT A GLANCE

NBA PLAYOFFS 2003

FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7)

Saturday, April 19
New Jersey 109, Milwaukee 96
Boston 103, Indiana 100
Phoenix 96, San Antonio 95, OT
Dallas 96, Portland 86
Sacramento 96, Utah 90

Sunday, April 20
Orlando 99, Detroit 94
L.A. Lakers 117, Minnesota 98
Philadelphia 98, New Orleans 90

Monday, April 21
San Antonio 84, Phoenix 76, series tied 1-1
Indiana 89, Boston 77, series tied 1-1
Sacramento 108, Utah 95, Sacramento leads series 2-0

Tuesday, April 22
Milwaukee 88, New Jersey 85, series tied 1-1
Minnesota 119, L.A. Lakers 91, series tied 1-1

Wednesday, April 23
Philadelphia 90, New Orleans 85, Philadelphia leads series 2-0
Detroit 89, Orlando 77, series tied 1-1
Dallas 103, Portland 99, Dallas leads series 2-0

Thursday, April 24
Indiana at Boston
New Jersey at Milwaukee
Minnesota at L.A. Lakers

Friday, April 25
Detroit at Orlando
San Antonio at Phoenix
Dallas at Portland

Saturday, April 26
New Jersey at Milwaukee
Philadelphia at New Orleans
Sacramento at Utah

Sunday, April 27
Indiana at Boston
Minnesota at L.A. Lakers
Detroit at Orlando
Dallas at Portland
San Antonio at Phoenix

Monday, April 28
Philadelphia at New Orleans
Sacramento at Utah

Tuesday, April 29
Phoenix at San Antonio
L.A. Lakers at Minnesota
Milwaukee at New Jersey
Boston at Indiana

Wednesday, April 30
Orlando at Detroit
New Orleans at Philadelphia, if necessary
Portland at Dallas, if necessary
Utah at Sacramento, if necessary

Thursday, May 1
Indiana at Boston, if necessary
New Jersey at Milwaukee, if necessary
San Antonio at Phoenix, if necessary
Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, if necessary

Friday, May 2
Detroit at Orlando, if necessary
Philadelphia at New Orleans, if necessary
Sacramento at Utah, if necessary
Dallas at Portland, if necessary

Saturday, May 3
Boston at Indiana, if necessary
Milwaukee at New Jersey, if necessary
L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, if necessary
Phoenix at San Antonio, if necessary

Sunday, May 4
New Orleans at Philadelphia, if necessary
Orlando at Detroit, if necessary
Portland at Dallas, if necessary
Utah at Sacramento, if necessary

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS (Best-of-7)
CONFERENCE FINALS (Best-of-7)
NBA FINALS (Best-of-7)

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan—Tracy McGrady scored 46 points, but five Pistons scored in double figures Wednesday as Detroit beat the Orlando Magic 89-77 in Game 2 to even their first-round playoff series.

Richard Hamilton had 30 points one game after scoring 28 in his playoff debut. Detroit's Chauncey Billups had 15, Corliss Williamson added 13, Ben Wallace, who won the NBA Defensive Player of the Year award earlier in the day, scored 10 points and grabbed 16 rebounds, and Cliff Robinson scored 10.

McGrady's teammates combined for just 31 points.

The NBA's leading scorer broke the Magic playoff scoring record he set Sunday with 43 points. His 46-point performance also tied The Palace scoring record in any game shared by Shaquille O'Neal, Jerry Stackhouse and Grant Hill.

Game 3 is Friday (Saturday in Manila) in Orlando.

THE Los Angeles Lakers try to bounce back from Wednesday's 19-point rout by the Minnesota Timberwolves in Game Three of their first round NBA Playoffs series today (Friday, April 25) live at 11 a.m. on Solar Sports. Replay is at 9 p.m.

76ers 90, Hornets 85

In Philadelphia, Allen Iverson backed up a brilliant 55-point performance in the playoff opener to score 29 points as Philadelphia beat New Orleans.

Kenny Thomas had 17 points and 16 rebounds as the 76ers took a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference series.

Game 3 is Saturday (Sunday in Manila) in New Orleans.

Derrick Coleman had 12 points and six assists and Keith Van Horn added 11 points for the Sixers. Thomas, Van Horn and Coleman, Philadelphia's starting frontcourt, had 11 points combined in Game 1. They got 40 Wednesday.

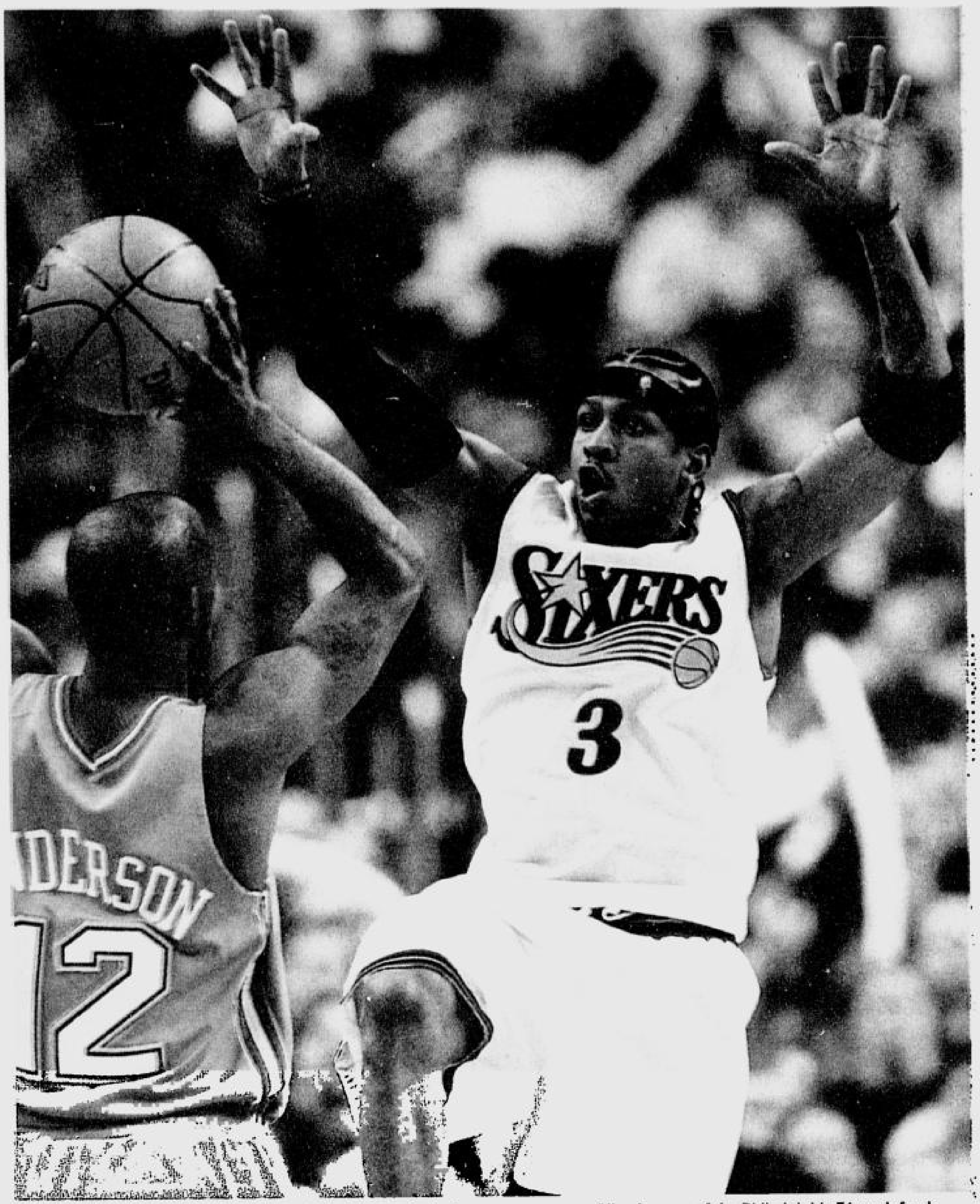
David Wesley had 24 points for New Orleans. Jamal Mashburn scored 14, but only one point after dislocating his right middle finger in the third quarter.

The Hornets were without Baron Davis, their second-leading scorer who was out with a left knee injury. Mashburn sat out the final 6:49.

Mavs 103, Blazers 99

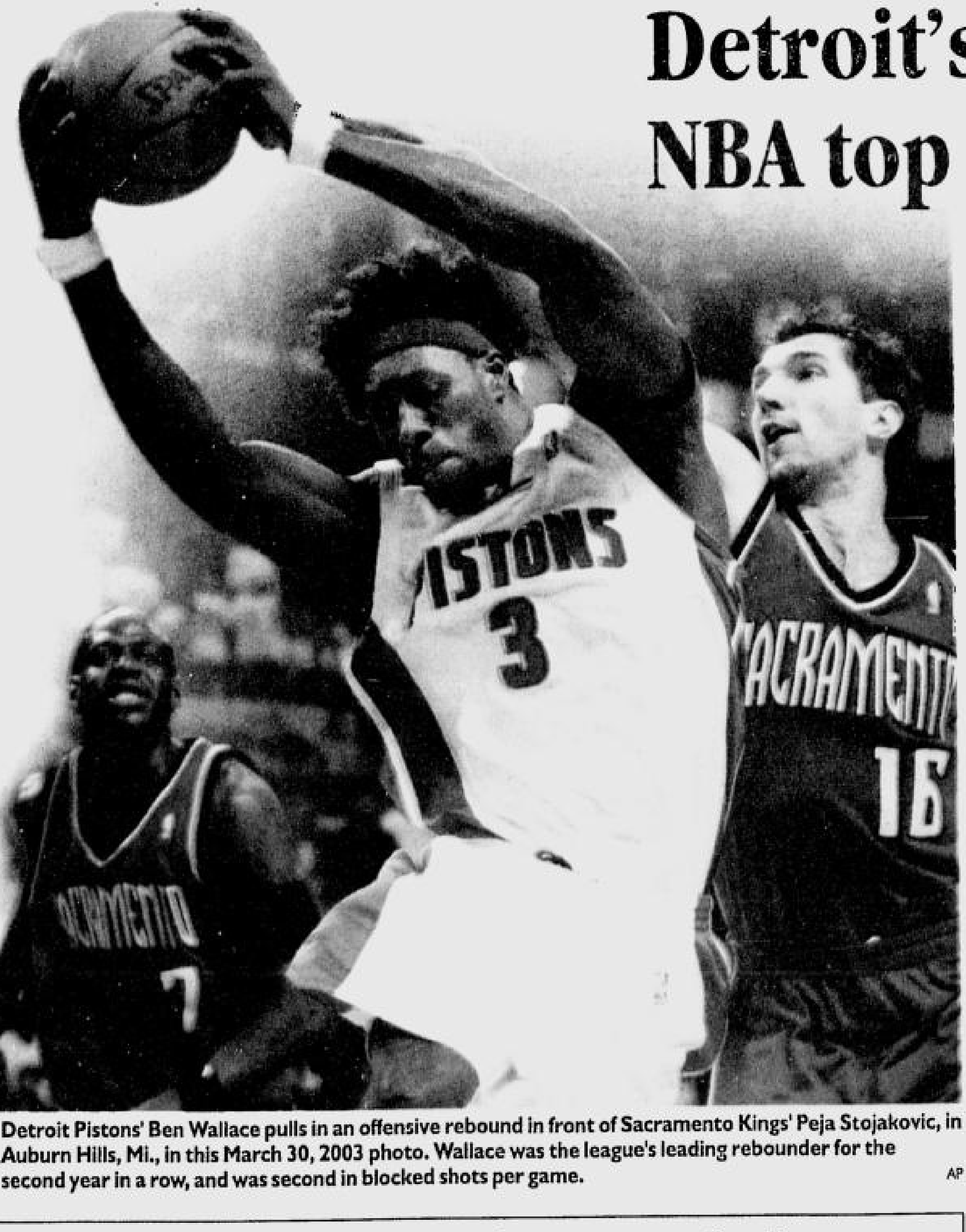
In Dallas Steve Nash and Michael Finley provided key plays as Dallas overcame a career-high 45 points by Bonzi Wells beat Portland.

Dallas now takes a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven matchup, with Game 3 scheduled Friday (Saturday in Manila). *AP*



KENNY Anderson (left) of the New Orleans Hornets looks for an open man as Allen Iverson of the Philadelphia 76ers defends. The 76ers won 90-85. AFP

Detroit's Wallace named NBA top defender anew



Detroit Pistons' Ben Wallace pulls in an offensive rebound in front of Sacramento Kings' Peja Stojakovic, in Auburn Hills, Mi., in this March 30, 2003 photo. Wallace was the league's leading rebounder for the second year in a row, and was second in blocked shots per game. AP

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan--Ben Wallace of the Detroit Pistons won the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year award for the second straight season Wednesday.

Wallace became the sixth player to win the award in consecutive seasons, receiving 100 out of a possible 117 first-place votes from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters. Ron Artest of Indiana, Kevin Garnett of Minnesota, Tim Duncan of San Antonio and Doug Christie of Sacramento rounded out the top five.

Wallace averaged a league-best 15.4 rebounds, the highest regular-season average since Dennis Rodman's 16.1 in 1996-97. Wallace averaged 3.15 blocked shots, second to Atlanta's Theo Ratliff, who averaged 3.23 blocks.

Sidney Moncrief, Dennis Rodman, Hakeem Olajuwon, Dikembe Mutombo and Alonzo Mourning also won the award in consecutive seasons.

Last year, Wallace was a nearly unanimous choice after becoming just the fourth player to lead the league in rebounding and shot blocking.

"Ben has proven himself to be the most dominant defensive player in the league again this year," said Joe Dumars, the Pistons' president of basketball operations. "I'm happy to see that people around the league have recognized him once again."

Wallace, who averaged a team-high 39.4 minutes, helped Detroit limit opposing teams to a league-low average of 87.7 points during the regular season.

The 28-year-old Wallace became the first undrafted player to be voted an All-Star starter this season. He played in the game one day after his mother's funeral.

After missing two weeks with a sprained ligament in his left knee, Wallace finished with 13 rebounds and three blocked shots in the Pistons' loss to the Orlando Magic on Sunday in Game 1 of their first-round playoff series.

Before getting injured, Wallace was on pace to become the first player in NBA history to lead the league in rebounds and blocks twice. Last season, he joined Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Bill Walton and Olajuwon as the only players to lead in rebounds and blocks. *AP*

Robinson: Things are going good for Spurs

PHOENIX--David Robinson is cautiously optimistic that he will be able to play Friday night (Saturday morning in Manila) in Game 3 of San Antonio's playoff series against the Phoenix Suns.

Robinson has partially torn cartilage in his left knee, the result of an offensive foul he took against the Suns' Stephon Marbury in Game 1, but jogged and did some light work at practice on Wednesday in San Antonio.

"We're still taking it day by day," he said, "but things are going good. If I can come out and contribute on Friday, that'd be great. I think we're pretty close to being on track for that."

Robinson scored 18 points on 8-for-8 shooting in Game 1. Facing retirement, he doesn't want to rush back too soon and find his career end before the Spurs' season does.

"Obviously, I want to help the team," Robinson said. "I know they can win without me, but I want to be in a position where I can help them".

Villamayor draws Torre, rules rapid chess

By Roy Luarca

FOR Grandmaster Bong Villamayor, making it to the Philippine team wasn't enough. He had to finish on top.

Villamayor agreed to a quick draw with GM Eugene Torre in the 22nd and final round to capture the Shell National Open Rapid Chess Championship Grand Finals yesterday and spearhead the national team to the Vietnam Southeast Asian Games in December.

Joining Villamayor, a member of the Philippine Air Force team, to the 5-man rapid chess event of the SEA Games are Torre, GM Joey Antonio and international masters Mark Paragua and Jayson Gonzales.

The three GMs, Paragua and NM Ronald Dableo, who ruled the Shell National Open Chess Championship, will also see action in the classic (long game) category.

The women's team composed of WIM Arianne Caoili, WIM Beverly mendoza, WIM Cristine Rose Mariano, WFM Sherrie Joy Lomibao and WNM Kathryn Ann Cruz will compete in both events.

The solo leader as early as the 11th round, the 35-year-old Villamayor finished with 15 points, one up on Antonio, to claim the P70,000 champion's purse.

Pressing for a win, Antonio lost by time forfeit to IM Nelson Mariano in the final round and settled for the runner-up prize of P50,000 in the tournament.

SPORTSWATCH

Top seed advances

TOP seed Bien Zoleta hurdled fifth pick Alyssa Labay, 6-4, 5-7, 6-1, yesterday to enter the girls' 18-under semifinals of the Luis Hilado Memorial Cup at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center. Zoleta will face Ana Ysabel Soriano, a 7-5, 6-3 winner over Amanda Romero. Also advancing was second seed Catherine Flores, who beat Kristel Samala, 6-0, 6-3. In the 16-under division, Bambi Zoleta outlasted Ivy de Castro, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, to join top seeds Bien Zoleta, No. 2 Catherine Flores and No. 4 Ana Micayabas in the Final Four. Seventh seed Nico Riego De Dios upset fourth seed Laurence Magaway, 7-5, 6-1, to reach the boys' 18-under semifinal.

Bosco leads winners

NAGA CITY—Don Bosco, Abcede Strikers and Sta. Cruz whipped their respective rivals Wednesday at the start of the Camarines Sur tournament of the Red Ribbon Bakeshop Under-14 Football Festival at the provincial high school field here. The DB Knights swamped the Abcede Smitters, 3-0; the Abcede Strikers clipped the Goa Goalers, 5-2; and the Sta. Cruz boys routed the Maramba Elementary School squad, 13-0. Over in Masbate, Balocaue blasted Milagros Football Club, 4-0, while the two other matches pitting Mandaoan FC against Emilio S. Bro FC and Uson FC against Dimasalang Kickers both ended in scoreless draws. Meanwhile, the Bukidnon leg of the tourney organized by the Philippine Football Federation and sponsored by Red Ribbon Bakeshop unwraps today at the Camp Phillips field with 10 teams vying for honors.

Spring vs Indonesians

PADILLA

AS part of its preparations for the NBL (National Basketball League), reigning Interclub champion Spring Cooking Oil will play the Indonesian national team on April 30 and May 1 in Jakarta. The NBL national championship starts on May 10 in Ozamiz City. Owned by national shooting champion Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla, the Spring squad is scheduled to fly to Jakarta on April 29. The delegation is headed by NBL secretary general Tito Palma. The other members are head coach Bobby Parks, assistant coach Ricky Magallanes and players Erwin Luna, Eric Reyes, Tyrone Bautista, Rolly Menor, Mario Reyes, Murphy Limbo, Rodel Manuel, Theody Habelito, Bernard Tanpua, Matt Makalintal, Loreo Soriano II and Jay Lapinid. The two-game series will highlight the start of the 10-team Indonesia Basketball League. "This trip will test the strength of our team, which has recently been revamped by our new coach, Bobby (Parks)," said Padilla.

Tall cagers wanted

"TUKLAS Taas," the nationwide search for the tallest athletic Filipino youngster for the RP-Burlington Youth Team to the 2004 Seaba Junior Basketball Championships, will be launched in May. This was jointly announced by Christian Tan, EVP of the Basketball Association of the Philippines, and Rudy Tan, general manager of Burlington. Interested players should submit their full-size picture, NSO birth certificate and signed bio-data to Unit 222 Cityland 8, Buendia, Makati City and attend the try-out nearest their place of residence. "Tuklas Taas" is part of the long-term development plan of the BAP headed by its president, Tiny Literal. For further details, please contact 894-3014 or 894-3576/ tuklas_taas03@yahoo.com.

4-cock derby on tap

WELL-known cockers field their bets in tonight's "PCCA 4 - Cock Derby" at Pasay City Cockpit. Sponsors are sagupaan Mite Free Shampoo, Sagupaan B-50 Forten and Sagupaan Hammer Dewormer. At stake is a cash prize of P300,000 while entry fee is P10,000. Pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric dela Rosa and Butchoy Olano said more than 50 fights are lined up. Competition in the PCCA Cocker of the Year 2003 race is also becoming more intense. Currently leading is the Islander RB (14.5 points) of Vice Gov. Mario Espinosa and tabloid executive/columnist Rey Briones. For details, please contact 843-1890, 843-1746 and 816-6750.

'Balikatan' meet set

AFTER the successful Largahan 5 -Cock Derby (204 entries) in March, Roligon Mega Cockpit presents another sure crowd-drawer dubbed "Balikatan 5 - Cock Derby" on May 6, 8 and 10 with Thunderbird Platinum as major sponsor. Top promoter Rolly Ligon, who guarantees all the prizes in his derbies, will be supported anew by general manager Danny Ty and Roming Vergara. At stake is a guaranteed prize of P1.2 million while entry fee is only P6,600. A bonus of P1,000,000 per day will go to elimination round champions (May 6 and 8) plus P25,000 for fastest kill champions. For other details, please contact 833 - 2275 and 833-1638.

Makati cagefest up

THE ANNUAL Makati Inter-Village Summer Basketball Tournament will commence on April 26 at the Barangay Bel Air covered court with eight famous villages of the city participating in two categories. Bel-Air Village, Palm Village, Forbes Park, Dasmariñas Village, Urdaneta Village, Magallanes Village, San Lorenzo Village and San Miguel Village will have teams in both the bulilit and mini-midget basketball tournaments for both boys and girls. Welcome remarks will be delivered by Barangay Bel-Air Chair Constancia Q. Lichauco. Elmer Yanga, RFM manager, is the guest speaker. SK Bel-Air Chair Karen Mendoza will lead the invocation, while the team captain of the Forbes Park/Urdaneta Village combined team will lead the oath of sportsmanship among the participating teams.

Chessfest tomorrow

THE SECOND leg of the 2003 Philippine Executive Active Chess Express (PEACE 2003) gets under way at 1 p.m. on April 26 at the Land Bank Plaza in Malate, Manila. PEACE 2003 is being organized by the Active Chess Center of Asia (ACCA) with the support of Belgosa Media Systems Inc. and Land Bank. It is sanctioned by the National Chess Federation of the Philippines. Executives who wish to join the event may contact the Acca at 892-8759 for other details.

MALOLOS DUAL MEET

RP pugs battle Taiwanese

LOPEZ

THE RP-Taiwan Friendship Amateur Boxing card takes the spotlight when the "Go for Gold" boxing festival goes to Malolos, Bulacan, today.

Coinciding with the St. Joseph fiesta celebration, the slugfest will have 12 exciting bouts, three of them featuring women boxers, to be hosted by Malolos Mayor Danilo Domingo at the Panasahan basketball court starting at 5:30 p.m.

"The Abap is glad to have Malolos as the host of this important dual meet between our country and Taiwan. With the help of Mayor Danilo Domingo, we could show the folks of Malolos what out local boxers are made of. This team from Taiwan is strong," Abap president Manny Lopez said.

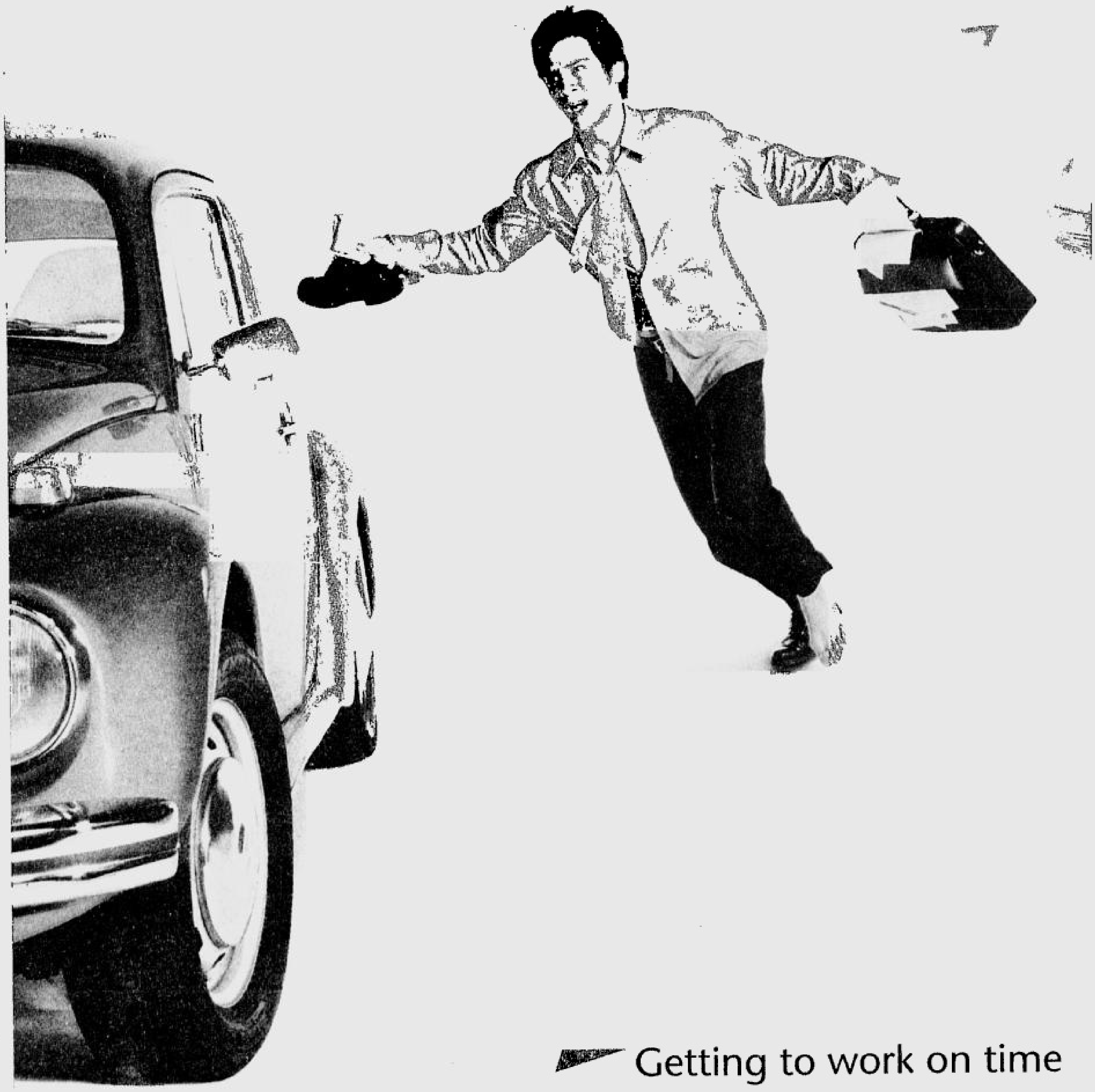
"This dual meet will not only give our local boxers the chance to gain experience but will also strengthen our ties with the visitors who are our partners in trying to upgrade amateur boxing in our region," he added.

The dual event, supported by Revicon, Pacific Heights, Family Rubbing Alcohol and Waterfront Hotel and Casino, will see local women boxers Noemi Peking, Alice Kate Aparri and Annaliza Cruz facing Taiwanese Chou Szurin, Chou Hsiuchen and Lee Chiman, respectively, in the last three bouts.

Also seeing action are national training pool members who will mix it up with their Taiwanese counterparts.

Pinweight Albert Pabila tangles with Liu Weihao, light flyweight Lhyven Salazar faces Wu Lienhuei, flyweight Warlito Parentas tests Liu Shihjung, featehrweight Genebert Basadre tangles with Chung Chunan, lightweights Alkim Naguila and Esmael Bacongon fight Lia Kuo Fu and Liao Shenghao, respectively; welterweight Florencio Ferrer battles Ku Chungkuang, and middleweight Maraon Goles meets Chien Chihuang.

"Go for Gold" is being shown on ABC 5 on Saturdays from 11 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.



What Drives You

Getting to work on time

Who hasn't overslept? But it won't change that 8 a.m. meeting. That's why Vortex High Performance Fuel gives you extra pick up when you need to put your foot down.

Vortex

What Drives You CALTEX

Tour Pilipinas hits the road tomorrow

Davadilla, Guieb picked in 18-day bikefest

By June Navarro

LEGASPI CITY--Certified stars, grizzled veterans and young upstarts make up the roster of team captains, who will be the focus of attention when the Tour Pilipinas 2003 presented by Air 21 kicks off here tomorrow.

Warren Davadilla, who ruled the last Marlboro Tour in 1998, and Carlo Guieb, a former back-to-back champion, are high in the list of favorites in the 15-lap, 18-day bikathon that offers a record P1 million to the team winner and P200,000 to the top individual rider.

Davadilla will spearhead Intel while Guieb, a mountain specialist, will led the Eco Savers of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The other veteran riders serving as team captains are Arnel Querimit (Tanduay Distillers), Renato Dolosa (Gilbey's Island Punch), Nicanor Ramos (Samsung), Enrique Domingo (Department of Transportation and Communication Postmen), Placido Valdez (Department of Interior and Local Government Drug Busters), Bernard Luzon (DILG Patrol 117), and Felix Celeste (Bureau of Internal Revenue's VAT Riders).

Rhyan Tanguilig, described as the second coming of Guieb had the old Tour stayed in the scene, gets the shot to fulfill his promise as he spearheads Pagcor Sports.

The most feared rider among the upstarts is a strong uphill climber, who will be backed by national team standout Lloyd Reynante, a time trial specialist.

Another dark horse is Tour of Calabarzon champion Santy Barnachea, who will skipper the Bowling Gold team.

Also rated as a contender is PLDT-NDD skipper Albert Primero, who surprised everybody with a strong finish in the final lap of the Calabarzon race last year.

While unknown riders have emerged as Tour champions, the team skippers enjoy a built-in edge in the individual race since they normally get full and complete support from their respective squads.

Baseball squads visiting Toronto warned on SARS

NEW YORK--When the Kansas City Royals play in Toronto on Friday (Satruday in Manila), they'll be cautious about where they eat meals, with whom they spend time, and how they sign autographs for fans.

Major league baseball warned teams to take precautions when playing the Blue Jays in Canada after health officials posted advisories about the dangers of SARS in the area.

Players were told to avoid crowds and contact with fans as the city deals with 140 cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome and 16 deaths.

Canada has been the most SARS-affected area outside Asia.

"The fact is SARS is there," said Dr. Elliot Pellman, MLB's medical adviser. "The other fact is there are 11 1/2 million people in Ontario, 2 1/2 million in the greater Toronto area. Take those figures and it's not an epidemic or the black plague. With proper precaution there is very little risk. Is there some risk? Yes."

Teams will be told to avoid crowds, hospitals and public transportation. If they want to sign autographs, Pellman said, players should use their own pens.

Baseball originally said it would advise players to avoid signing autographs, but later amended that.

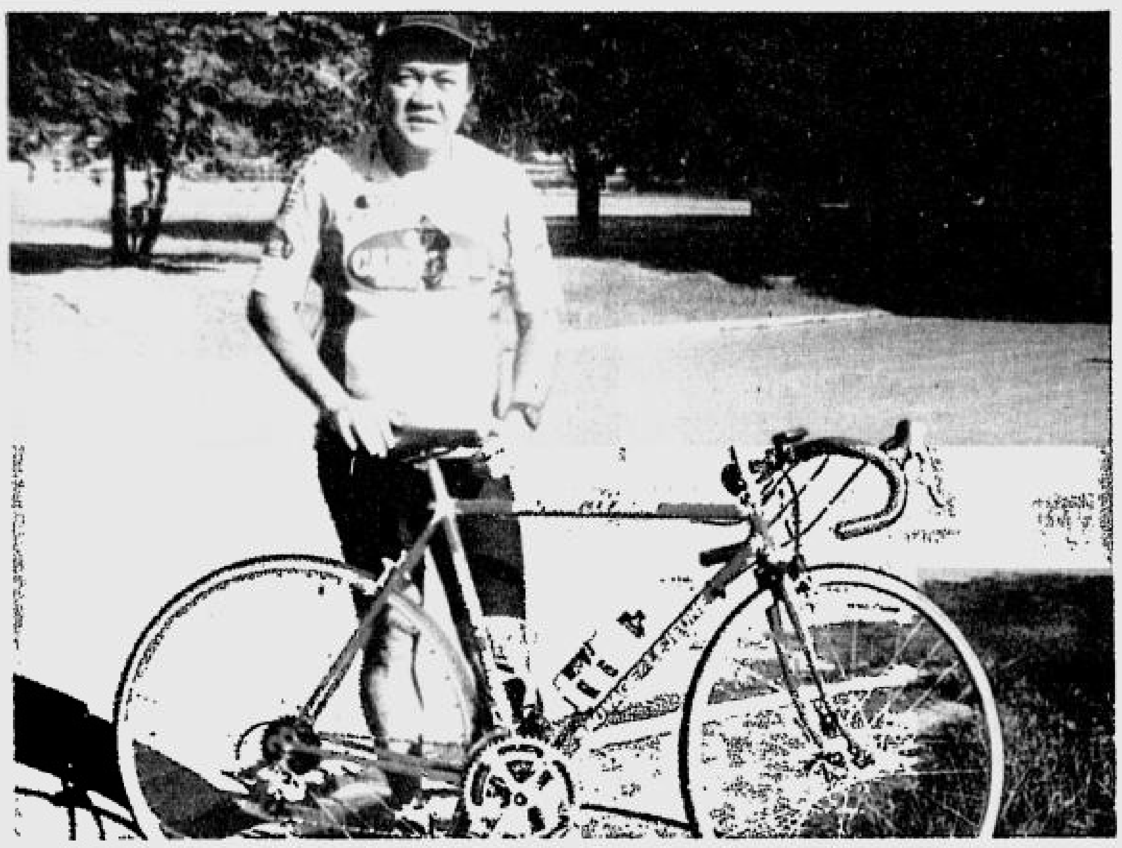
"While it is a concern, the risk of actual infection is still incredibly small," said Rob Manfred, executive vice president of labor relations for the commissioner's office. "The advice we're giving to the teams is basic health advice: wash your hands, avoid sharing food."

Toronto pitcher Tanyon Sturtze agrees with the precautions.

Complete results:

National League--San Diego 2, Chicago Cubs 0; Atlanta 4, St. Louis 2; Cincinnati 3, Los Angeles 0; Philadelphia 6, Colorado 4; Arizona 6, Montreal 2; NY Mets 4, Houston 2; Florida 5, Milwaukee 4 (12 innings); San Francisco 4, Pittsburgh 3 (13 innings).

American League--Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 3; Baltimore 7, Chi White Sox 1; Texas 6, Boston 1; Seattle 4, Cleveland 0; Detroit 4, Oakland 1; NY Yankees 9, Anaheim 2; Minnesota at Kansas City (postponed)



PADILLA: Success story beyond compare.

Padilla sees promise in cycling revival

By June Navarro

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

ALL for the love of cycling.

This was how former Tour of Luzon champion Cornelio Padilla Jr. described his long affair with a sport where his success story remains beyond compare.

Now a noted lawyer and legal consultant of the National Book Store Group of Companies, the 56-year-old Padilla credits most of his accomplishments to cycling.

"I gained self-discipline, determination and confidence from my exposure in cycling. It motivated me to reach greater heights," said Padilla,who became the second back-to-back champion of the grueling multi-stage Tour of Luzon in 1966 and 1967 then used his earnings to pursue a law degree at the Far Eastern University.

Padilla started in the sport as a newsboy also delivering comics and magazines while riding on a second-hand bike.

It was about this time that he joined the training sessions of cycling groups in Metro Manila. He was so talented he later became a member of the national team after winning the 1964 National Amateur Championship in Lingayen, Pangasinan.

As a national cyclist,Padilla, known as Paddy to his close friends, landed 52nd in a field of 180 in the individual road race at the Tokyo Olympiad.

"Joining the national team is a personal sacrifice. I even quit school for two years to represent the country," said Padilla, who received the Presidential Award for Meritorious Service in Sports in 1967 from former President Ferdinand Marcos.

The Philippine Sportswriters Association, the oldest media organization in the country, also bestowed on Padilla three major awards--amateur cyclist of the year (1964), professional cyclist of the year (1966) and athlete of the year in 1967.

Only one other multi-stage cycling was held after 1969 and when Tour founding father Gerry Lacuesta revived the event in 1973,Padilla made a comeback and placed fourth overall.

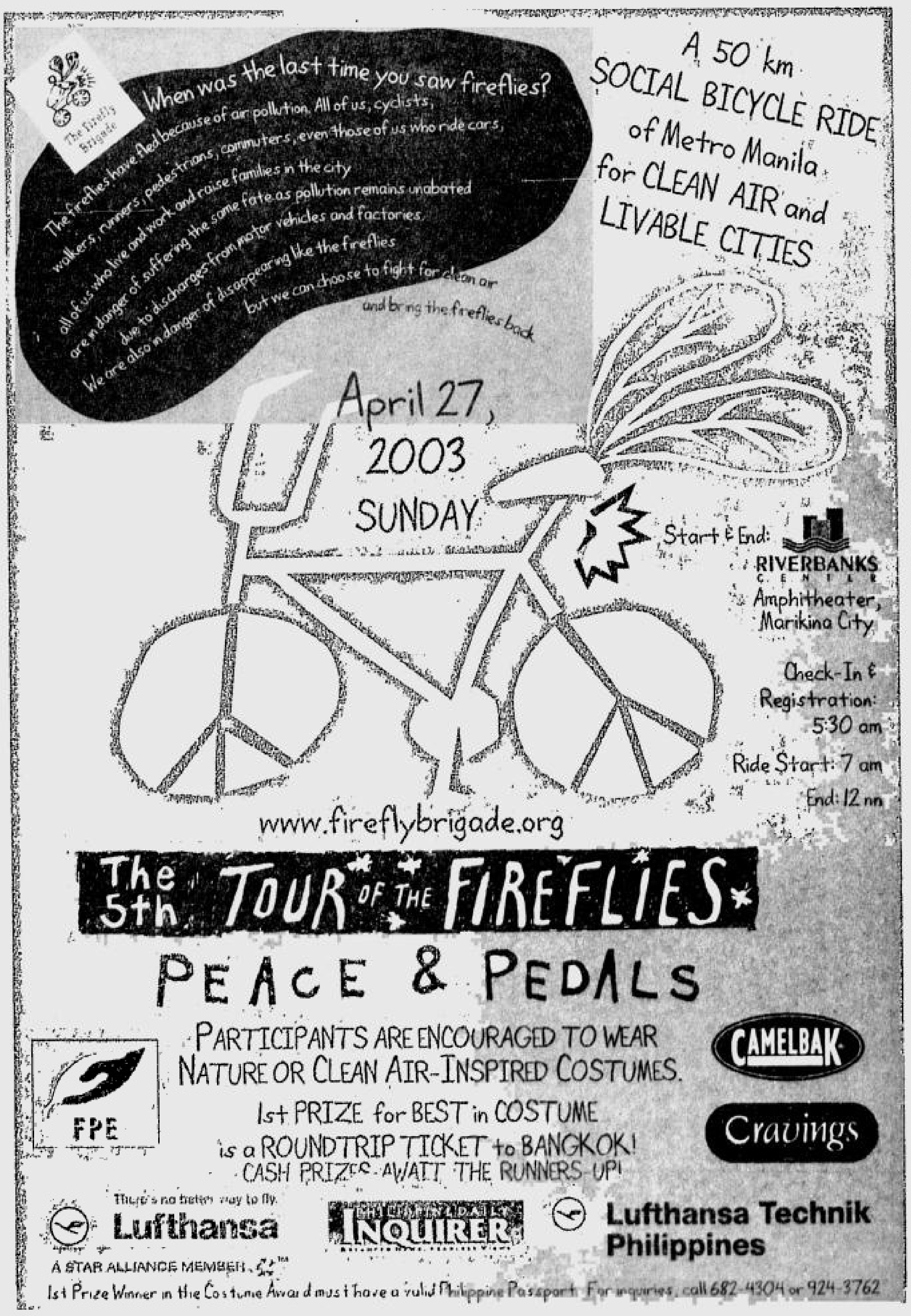
It was Paddy's last bikathon.

"I used my earnings in that Tour to pay the bar examination fee and buy law books for my review," said Padilla, who passed the bar the following year.

Still, the call of cycling beckoned.

While sharpening his legal skills, Padilla helped formed the Professional Cycling Association of the Philippines and served as its president from 1986-1996.Padilla then ran ran the Tour as its director-general until 1998 when its major sponsor backed out.

When Bert Lina of FedEx decided to assume the role of cycling godfather last year, Padilla was tapped to help resurrect multi-stage cycling with a four-day kick-off race known as the Express Tour of Calabarzon under the sponsorship of Airfreight 2100.


The Firefly Brigade
When was the last time you saw fireflies?
The fireflies have fled because of air pollution. All of us, cyclists,
walkers, runners, pedestrians, commuters, even those of us who ride cars,
all of us who live and work and raise families in the city
are in danger of suffering the same fate as pollution remains unabated
due to discharges from motor vehicles and factories.
We are also in danger of disappearing like the fireflies
but we can choose to fight for clean air
and bring the fireflies back
A 50 km SOCIAL BICYCLE RIDE of Metro Manila for CLEAN AIR and LIVABLE CITIES
April 27, 2003 SUNDAY
Start & End: RIVERBANKS CENTER Amphitheater, Marikina City
Check-In & Registration: 5:30 am
Ride Start: 7 am
End: 12 nn
www.fireflybrigade.org
The 5th TOUR OF THE FIREFLIES
PEACE & PEDALS
PARTICIPANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR NATURE OR CLEAN AIR-INSPIRED COSTUMES.
1st PRIZE for BEST in COSTUME is a ROUNDTRIP TICKET to BANGKOK!
CASH PRIZES AWAIT THE RUNNERS-UP!
FPE
CAMELBAK
Cravings
There's no better way to fly.
Lufthansa
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER
INQUIRER
Lufthansa Technik Philippines
1st Prize Winner in the Costume Award must have a valid Philippine Passport. For inquiries, call 682-4304 or 924-3762

Forest Hills hosts Invitational

THE GOLF season heats up as Forest Hills Golf and Country Club prepares for the 'Invitational,' a unique member-guest tournament, scheduled on May 15-18.

According to sports and games committee chair Victor de Guzman, the Invitational, an appreciation tournament by the Forest Hills Board and officers to its members for their continued support of the club's programs, is a much-awaited event every year.

"As a matter of fact, fifty percent of the available slots have already been filled up after just two weeks of registration," de Guzman said.

De Guzman also added that upon registration, the member and his guest would have the freedom to choose from 9 adidas models of golf shoes for their giveaways.

TaylorMade adidas and Golforce are this year's presenters while Turf Co. and Rudy Project head the list of early sponsors.

The four-day tournament will be a 36-hole modified Stableford competition among two-man teams. Forest Hills members will use their April 2003 handicaps while their guests must use their lowest April handicap indices.

There will be a double shotgun--6:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Teams teeing off in the first day will play best ball on first day and aggregate on the second day.

Stallion Cup gets under way today

MEMBERS of De La Salle Lipa's Batch '78 lead a field of more than 140 players teeing off today in the 2nd Silver Stallion Cup golf tournament at Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club in Lipa City.

Beautifully crafted trophies and round-trip tickets to Hong Kong are at stake in the fund-raising event organized by DLSL's alumni silver jubilarians and supported by Caltex Phils., Globe Telecoms, Cebu Pacific Air, the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Boysen Paints, Montenegro Shipping Lines and Primera Agro Development Corp.

Part of the tournament's proceeds will go to the Bro. Jaime Hilario Learning Community, the free five-year night school of La Salle Lipa for poor but deserving students, said Batch '78 president Oscar Olmos.

Registration starts at 6 a.m. and tee-off is from 7 to 9 a.m. The System 36 mode of scoring will be used.

Teddyvic Melendres

Soriano, Sudario lead golf winners

OCA Soriano clinched low gross honors while Ferlu Sudario and Nanie Cruz took the low net titles in the recent Invitational senior golf tournament sponsored by the Mizuno group of Benny Gopez, NGAP Secretary-General and President of Riviera seniors, at the Riviera Golf and Country Club.

Participated in by 125 senior golfers representing 17 chapters of the Federation of Senior Golfers, the tournament was efficiently managed by Riviera President Commodore Danny Pizarro and his staff, it was announced by Cong. Frisco F. San Juan, Federation president.

Age group winners were Charles Betts, Group I; Alex Santos, Group II; Pastor Zamesa, Group III; and Domingo Cera, Group IV. Fernando Airbase, composed of Alex Santos, Domingo Cera, Victor Torrado, and Fil Landicho won the team championship; while Team Riviera was second, whose group was made up of Pastor Zamesa, Job Abundo, Deepak Sen and Philip Judan.

PSC swimming festival unfolds

THE 1st PSC Chairman's Cup national swimming competition--the biggest gathering of swimmers on a national scale--gets under way today at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

More than 1,000 athletes and coaches from within and outside Metro Manila have completed their entries to the competition, described by event organizer Aquatic Consultancy Group as a tune-up event for the Palarong Pambansa slated next month.

PSC Chair Eric Buhain, a former swimming champion, will be the guest of honor of the event ending on Sunday (April 27).

ACG head Carlos "Pinky" Brosas said the different clubs and teams were invited to the three-day event to gauge the current condition of Philippine swimming.

Teams may contact ACG at 787-0269 to receive an invitation through fax.

The 1st PSC Chairman's Cup is sponsored by Centrum (the official multivitamins of Team Philippines), Air Philippines and Speedo swim wear

This changing world

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

IT rained yesterday at the place where I live, which is not far from Congress. I applauded, like I just saw Rich Alvarez score his fourth dunk for the night.

When I looked out the window, I marveled at the drops of rain racing from the sky like arrows darting into parched land. With each drop that hit the sun-baked asphalt road, smoke emitted. It was that hot before the rain came.

If you can't love the rain, you're incapable of loving anything.

Even when you are on the beach, it's a nice feeling when it's raining. You allow your face to catch the raindrops, and each pelt gives you a sensation as though being pricked gently as in acupuncture.

Children love the rain as much as teeners do. Rain is the farmer's best friend.

Many poems use rain for rhyme. Many poets rain us with lines that belie pain. Composers and singers like rain as the theme of their songs. Bacharach has "Raindrops keep falling from my head." The Cascades did the hit "Listen to the rhythm of the falling rain."

Like composers, singers and poets, the super athletes can also weave magic. Michael Jordan exhibits e.e. cummings poetry with his repertoire of shots. In his hey day, Samboy Lim was the skywalker like no other; he flies like "images of a broken light which dance before me like a million eyes" as the Beatles sang it.

It used to be that the first rains of summer would come in May. With yesterday's raindrops, the world cycle has changed anew.

Such is the universe, a continuing mystery better appreciated than understood.

***

Neil Bravo, the former sportswriter, popped up yesterday to say the Mindanao Games will be held in Mati, Davao Oriental, in October.

Through a text message, Neil said my piece on Tubod, Lanao del Norte, being the host of the Palarong Pambansa on May 4-11 was a pitch for peace in war-torn Mindanao. Alice Andrada of Iligan also "texted" to say the same thing.

"I am also glad to tell you that I am now the public information officer and provincial sports coordinator of Davao Oriental," Neil said.

There could be no better choice than Neil, a hawk-eyed journalist when he was still pounding the sports beat in Davao City and stringing for Malaya. The newspaper's loss is Davao Oriental's gain.

***

I had occasion to renew ties with a dear friend the other night. The guy is a first cousin of Fernando Poe Jr., filmdom's foremost action king.

"I think he is not entirely closing the door on the possibility of running for president next year," my friend said. "First, he has overcome his fear of flying and he has gone to the Visayas and Mindanao on board a chopper, feeling the pulse of the people. Second, he keeps saying that if and when he will finally run, he will not do it because of Erap but because of the people."

It is common knowledge that if FPJ will run, his main mission after victory is to free Erap from jail.

"People who say that don't really know my cousin," said my friend of FPJ. "I know him since our kiddie days. Ronnie has always been pro-*masa*. In fact, I can tell you he is more pro-people than pro-Erap."

I asked him when would FPJ finally say he is running or not.

"Before the end of the year," he said.

Some say FPJ will never be ready for the presidency as he has no experience whatsoever in politics. But I say that in politics, one does not need a college degree to master it.

Listen to Robert Louis Stevenson: "Politics is perhaps the only profession for which no preparation is thought necessary."

Amen to that.

SPORTSTV

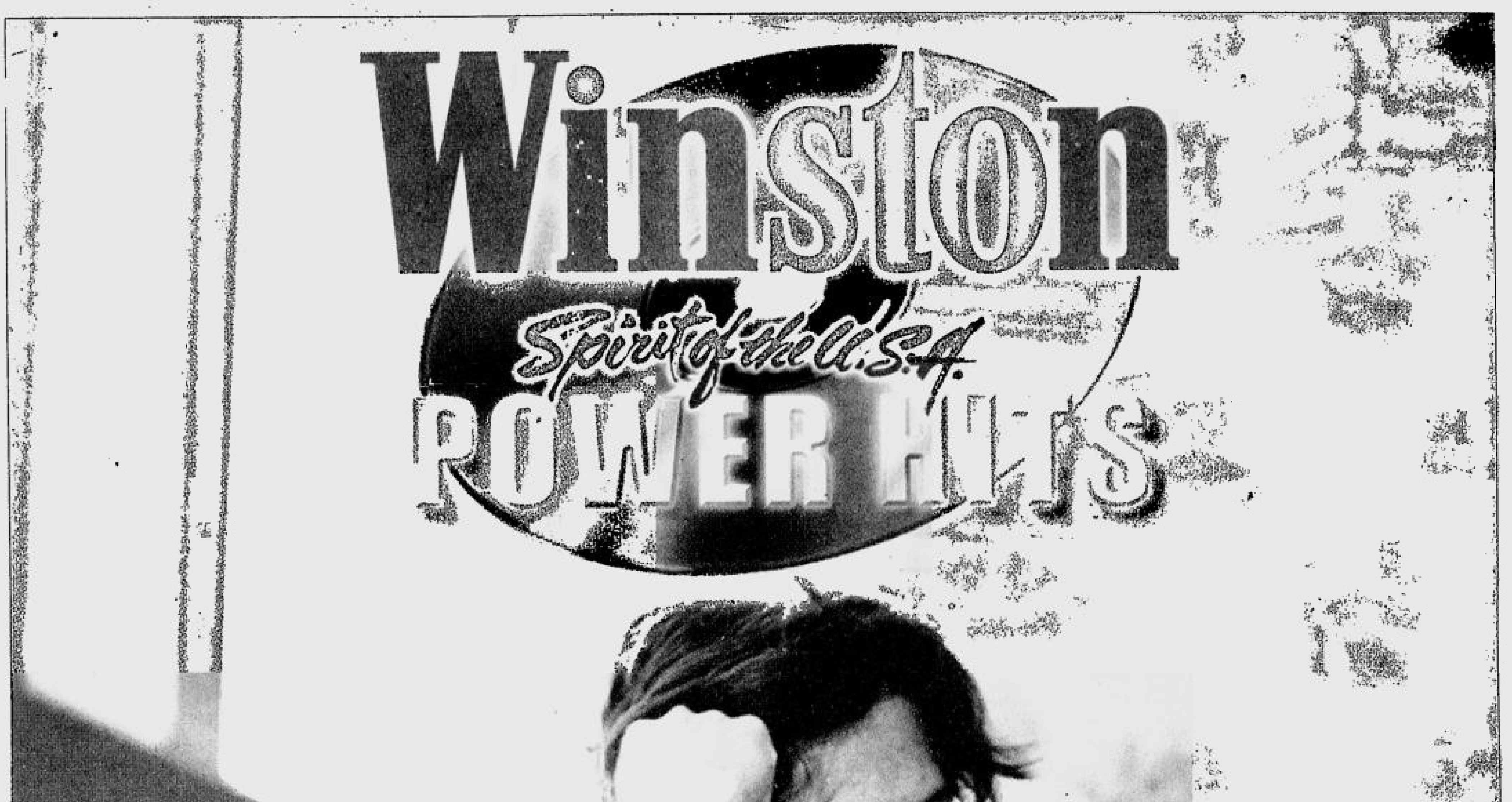
Compiled by L. Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA Playoffs - Nets vs Bucks, Game 3, 8:30 a.m. (r - 9 p.m.), Star Sports, Timberwolves vs Lakers, Game 3, 10:30 a.m. (r - 8:30 p.m.), Solar Sports
World Pro Basketball Challenge, 10:30 a.m. (r), ESPN
NBA Inside Stuff, 8:30 p.m., Star Sports
GOLF: LPGA Office Depot, 2:30 p.m. (r), ESPN
POOL: 2002 International Challenge of Champions, 4:30 p.m. (r), ESPN
SOCCER: Goals!, 12 noon (r - 5:30p.m.), ESPN

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Brute Force 2. Gigi's Gold 3. Bridegroom
Race 2--1. Dow Jones 2. Propensity
Race 3--1. Southern Charm 2. Burning Light 3. Haz It All
Race 4--1. Ganda 2. Gossip Column 3. Enjoy D View
Race 5--1. Rose and Toy 2. Sham Sham 3. Hezabellagio 4. Richie Rich 5. Silver Lining
Race 6--1. War Hero 2. Sister Act 3. Aba Aba Aba 4. Worth Ur While 5. Top Most
Race 7--1. Voice of Destiny/Winning Heart 2. Imus Emperor/Shuttle's Rianne 3. You and Me 4. Currency
Race 8--1. Buena Sera 2. Velocity 3. Hacker 4. Cryptorose
Race 9--1. D'Minnows 2. High Typhoon 3. Scene Stealer 4. Lady Victoria 5. Run Doding Fly 6. Pabuya



Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.

Malayo ang mararating.
Islander
Islander
Kapal ng orig, tibay ng orig!

He has found the permanent hair solution
(CTR ™) TRANSDERMAL HAIR RESTORATION
Vigorous life styles!

We welcome you to the high-tech world of Transdermal Hair Restoration.

Most permanent hairloss is due to heredity, it is dictated by genetic make-up. Science has not yet discovered a way to halt pattern of baldness. What today's technology developed, however, is a remarkable, permanent solution using Transdermal Hair Restoration, a non-invasive skin graft.

CALL US NOW FOR FREE CONSULTATION! BEWARE OF IMITATIONS

IMAGE ASSOCIATES

Makati Office: Suite 714 Herrera Tower,
98 Herrera Cor. Valero Sts., Salcedo Village,
Makati City Telephone Number: 845-0879
/ 845-1663 Fax: 845-1711

Quezon City Office: Suite 401-402 Columbian Bldg. 160 West Ave., Q.C.
Telephone Number: 924-1894 / 924-1895 Fax: 924-1896

Cebu Office: Ma. Cristina Bldg. I, Suite 408, Fuente Osmeña, Cebu City
Tel. No.: (032) 256-0347 Telefax: (032) 256-0320

Golf duel pits Jennifer Rosales vs Se Ri Pak

SE RI PAK

ROSALES

By Jong Arcano

NEGOTIATIONS have started for a one-on-one duel between Korean superstar Se Ri Pak against local hotshot Jenny Rosales in September.

Reliable sources said that it was Pak's camp through the International Management Group (IMG) which sent the feelers to Rosales who instantly accepted the challenge.

Pak's negotiators have already asked Rosales' course of preference and the possible talent fee for the one-on-one which could even become a home-and-away duel of the two prominent Asian aces campaigning in the LPGA Tour. Rosales is reportedly asking for $50,000 (about P2.5 million) as guarantee money for the duel.

The first round will be played in Manila and the other in Seoul, Korea. The date being targetted is the second and third weeks of September when most of the Asian aces will be on a break due to the Solheim Cup.

"It will thus become a business and leisure homecoming for both Se Ri and Jenny," said the source.

The source also added that Dorothy Delasin, the Filipino-American who had two sensational starts in the LPGA, was not considered by the Pak camp since she is now an American citizen and had actually joined the American team as an alternate in the Solheim Cup last year.

Chances are Rosales will be opting for Manila Southwoods which she considers her home course. Most of her handlers, including Bob Sobrepena and his swing guru Bong Lopez, are tied up with the Fil-Estate club.

Rosales' stint in the 2003 LPGA season is being partly funded by Pagcor through the initiative of First Gentleman Mike Arroyo and Southwoods member Dr. Jack Arroyo of the American Eye Center.

A Rosales-Pak duel is a surefire blockbuster not just because of Rosales' big following here but also because of a big community of Koreans expats and golfing tourists.

Fresh from a ninth place finish in the LPGA Takefuji Classic in Las Vegas, Rosales joins the Chick-fil-A Charity Championship hosted by Nancy Lopez starting tomorrow in Stockbridge, Georgia. She is currently 26th in the money list with winnings of almost $65,487 (about P3.4 million) in five starts. Delasin is in 19th spot with $79,405.

Pak, ranked second behind Annika Sorenstam in the money list with earnings past $300,000, is also in the field along with 13-year-old Michelle Wie, the sensational eight-grader from Hawaii, who will be competing in her fourth LPGA event under a sponsor's exemption.

Agojo, Ardina, Superal book trip to San Diego

By Jong Arcano

AS SISTERS Linnel and Debbie de Villa kept their chances of becoming siblings in a national contingent, Jayvie Agojo, Dottie Ardina, Wolen Juan Superal and Jik Jik Abdon appear to have booked their trip to San Diego, California for the Junior World golf championship.

This loomed yesterday in the penultimate round of the Callaway Junior World golf championships qualifying event in various venues.

Debbie de Villa was on her way to a big upset in the girls Class C as she raised her lead to nine strokes over Mia Piccio with an 81-243. In contrast, Linnel has a bigger task ahead after the fancied Geleen Handog drew level in girls Class B.

Linnel yielded two strokes with her 84 and will tee off today playing scratch with Handog who turned in an 82, her best score in three rounds.

Barring any major collapses, today's final round will more likely be a leusirely walk to victory for Ardina, Agojo Superal and Abdon.

The 72-hole event serves as the third leg of the Samsung Jungolf Tour.

Ardina will definitely make a return stint to the Junior World a year after her smashing triumph. A one-over par 55 gave her a 172 aggregate and the largest of leads among the third round frontrunners - 34 strokes - in girls Class D.

At the same Riviera executive course, Kristina Potenciano (58-171) went up by eight over Andie Unson in girls Class E.

Just as overpowering were Agojo and Abdon who settled the issue one round early in girls Class A and boys Class C, respectively, despite turning in their worst scores in three days. Agojo even widended her lead to 15 over Matet Salivio after a 78-224 while Abdon remained 13 shots ahead even with his first over-par score in three days of 77-218.

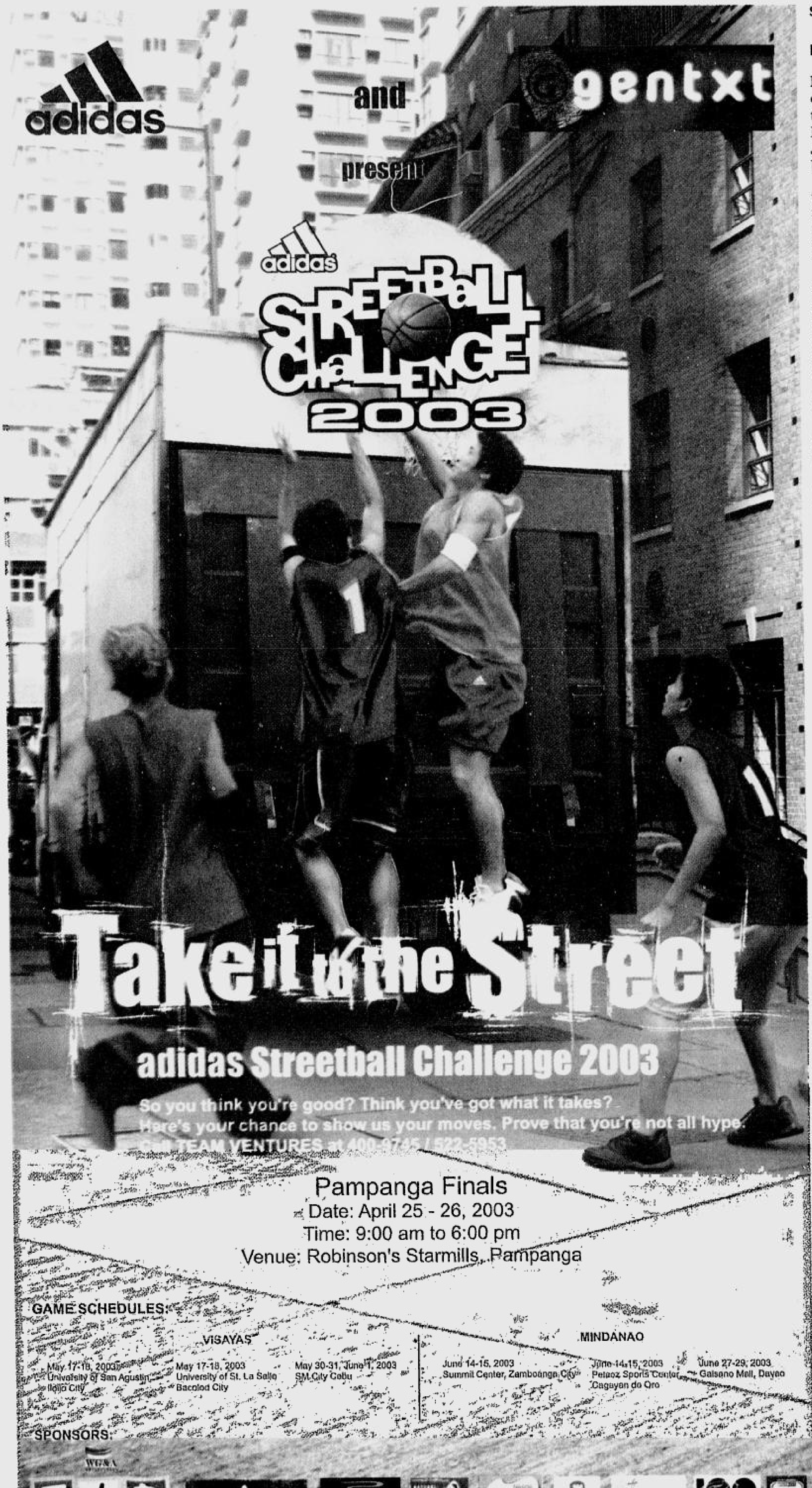
ARDINA

The other age levels in the boys division are headed for an exciting windup.

Miguel Tabuena, called the Little Tiger by President Arroyo, and the upset-conscious Bino de la Paz shared the lead in boys Class E, club bet Miko Alejandro was ahead by just three strokes in Class B, while Justin Tambunting seized a five-shot lead after a two-under 70-219.

Electrobus Consolidated, the local distributor of Junior World title sponsor Callaway, will provide prizes to the tournament winners today. The regular cosponsors of the Samsung Jungolf Tour are Philippine Airlines, Airlift Asia, Air Liquide Phils., Global Lighting and Exito Manufacturing. Pisanti Golf, Bellevue Manila, Third World Eximport, HBW Enterprises, MCCI Corp. and BF Technology are minor sponsors.

The event is being held to determine the 24 members of the Philippine delegation to the Junior World championships in San Diego, California this coming July. All division champions will be given free tickets to Los Angeles by PAL.



adidas and gentxt present

adidas STREETBALL CHALLENGE 2003

Take it to the Street

adidas Streetball Challenge 2003

So you think you're good? Think you've got what it takes?
Here's your chance to show us your moves. Prove that you're not all hype.
Call TEAM VENTURES at 400-9745 / 522-5953

Pampanga Finals
Date: April 25 - 26, 2003
Time: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
Venue: Robinson's Starmills, Pampanga

GAME SCHEDULES:

VISAYAS
May 17-18, 2003
University of San Agustin
Iloilo City

May 17-18, 2003
University of St. La Salle
Bacolod City

May 30-31, June 1, 2003
SM City Cebu

MINDANAO
June 14-15, 2003
Summit Center, Zamboanga City

June 14-15, 2003
Pelaez Sports Center
Cagayan de Oro

June 27-29, 2003
Gaisano Mall, Davao

SPONSORS:
WG&A ZIP POWER MILO WARNER MUSIC LUPE

MEDIA PARTNERS: chalk Pink STUDIO 23 Killer Bee

DotPH Webhosting.
•Fast.
•Reliable.
•Secure.
www.dot.PH
The Official Domain Registry of the Philippines

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2003
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B1
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph • Website: www.inq7money.net
BUSINESS
Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Women, WORRIED ABOUT HAIR LOSS?
Call Svenson now! 243-0128

S&P downgrades RP credit rating

By Doris C. Dumlao

INTERNATIONAL credit rating agency Standard and Poor's (S&P) yesterday downgraded the Philippines' long-term sovereign credit rating to 'BB' from 'BB plus' due to concerns on the government's fragile fiscal position.

S&P also announced that it had lowered the short-term foreign currency rating to "A-3" from "A-2" even as it affirmed a "stable" outlook on the long-term ratings.

Investment bankers said the downgrade had resulted in the "dramatic" widening of spreads of Philippine debt papers while the government said it was undeterred by the latest rating.

In a statement, S&P said the country's sovereign rating was constrained by a high fiscal debt and fiscal inflexibility, narrow tax base and heightened risk from contingent liabilities in the utility sectors.

The announcement was made a few days after the government admitted that it had overshot its budget deficit ceiling in the first quarter by P3.7 billion as overspending offset over-performance in revenue collection.

S&P noted that the Philippine government's deficit was likely to remain high at about 5 percent of gross domestic product this year compared to 5.4 percent in 2002 largely due to weak tax collection.

"The weak fiscal profile and shallow domestic capital markets force continuing dependence on external capital to accelerate economic growth, raising the vulnerability of Philippine financial markets to adverse external developments and constraining macroeconomic stability," S&P said.

It noted that the government's debt, excluding amounts guaranteed and lent to public sector corporations, was nearing 85 percent of GDP this year compared with the average of 50 percent for similarly rated sovereigns.

Interest rates are thus seen gobbling up about 38 percent of the government's revenues this year, up from 22 percent in 1999.

It also noted that the narrow tax base was contributing to weak public finances as tax revenues have fallen by more than 3 percentage points as a share of GDP since 1997 due to shortfalls incurred by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

"The growing difficulty in implementing ambitious structural reforms in the energy sector, as well as delays in restructuring some public sector enterprises, such as National Power Corp., raises the likelihood of the government assuming more of these entities' debt in coming years," S&P added.

On the positive side, S&P said the ratings were supported by adequate external liquidity, with total debt service as a share of current account receipts at 32 percent or at par with peers while total external debt was projected at 114 percent of exports this year, compared with the average level

S&P/B5

World Bank cuts growth forecast for RP, East Asia

THE WORLD Bank has scaled down its economic growth forecast for this year for most East Asian countries—including the Philippines—due to external shocks arising from the Iraq crisis and the SARS outbreak.

In a simultaneous videoconference with reporters from Jakarta, Tokyo and Manila, Washington-based World Bank officials noted that uncertainties hounding the region would likely slow down economic growth in East Asia to 5 percent this year from 5.8 percent last year.

The new outlook released yesterday was a downgrade from the earlier forecast of 5.4 percent for the region. However, the bank said a rebound to a 5.7-percent growth was likely by next year as the uncertainties from the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus were likely to be temporary.

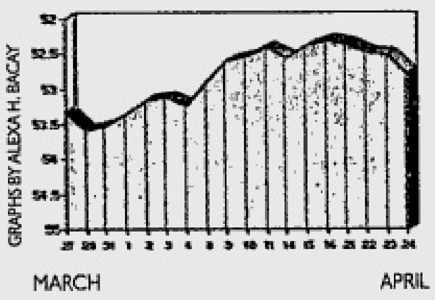
The bank acknowledged, however, that the SARS outbreak had replaced the war in Iraq as the region's most pressing concern.

"Since the short-run economic impacts are almost entirely based on public fears, information policy will play a critical role. Frankness and transparency in public information will be critical in building trust and minimizing the economic costs of SARS," World Bank

WORLD/B5

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

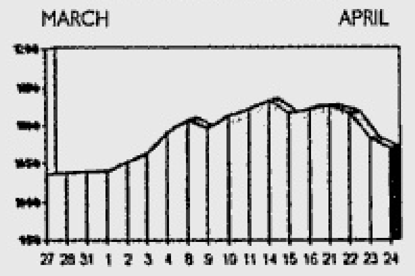
P 52.795 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., April 24, 2003

¥ 119.92 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., April 24, 2003

GOLD: $333.00/333.50
per ounce Hong Kong, April 24, 2003

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B2)

Stocks drop 1.24% on deficit, SARS fears

STOCKS fell yesterday, extending Wednesday's sharp decline, as worries about the country's budget deficit and SARS added to a more cautious outlook.

The main index dropped 13.43 points or 1.24 percent to 1,070.45, breaching initial support at 1,080. But the index, which fell nearly 3 percent on Wednesday, is still up 5.11 percent so far this year.

"Sentiment is affected by the first-quarter budget deficit which exceeded the government's target and by the probable presence of SARS in the country," said BPI Securities stocks analyst Roberto Cano.

Turnover dropped to P211.37 million from Wednesday's P243.56 million. Losers clobbered gainers 46 to 20 and there were 24 stocks unchanged.

STOCKS/B3

TWO DAYS CAN MAKE A 22% DIFFERENCE.

THIS SUMMER, PURCHASE YOUR CEBU PACIFIC TICKETS TWO DAYS IN ADVANCE AND GET UP TO 22% FURTHER REDUCTION FROM OUR VALUE FARES.

ROUTES	VALUE FARES	2-DAY ADVANCE	SAVINGS
Cebu - Puerto Princesa v.v.	2,499	2,049*	18%
Cebu - Zamboanga v.v.	2,319	1,999	14%
Cebu - Davao v.v.	2,249	1,949	13%
Cebu - Butuan v.v.	1,499	1,299*	13%
Cebu - Iloilo v.v.	1,759	1,549	12%
Cebu - Bacolod v.v.	1,539	1,349	12%
Manila - Davao v.v.	3,239	2,519	22%
Manila - Zamboanga v.v.	3,239	2,519	22%
Manila - Butuan v.v.	3,239	2,569	21%
Manila - Cagayan de Oro v.v.	3,239	2,519	22%
Manila - Dumaguete v.v.	2,569	2,049	20%
Manila - Puerto Princesa v.v.	2,499	2,049	18%
Manila - Cebu v.v.	2,569	2,049	20%
Manila - Tacloban v.v.	2,569	2,099	18%
Manila - Bacolod v.v.	2,449	2,049	16%
Manila - Iloilo v.v.	2,449	2,049	16%
Manila - Roxas v.v.	2,149	1,999	7%
Manila - Kalibo v.v.	2,569	2,049	20%
Davao - Zamboanga v.v.	2,319	1,999	14%

CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOWER THAN LOW FARES!

* For travel effective May 1, 2003

NOTES:
1. Tickets must be purchased and ticketed at least 2 days prior to travel date.
2. No open dated tickets shall be allowed. However rebooking shall be allowed provided that it is done at least 2 days prior to travel date.
3. Validity shall be 3 months from the date of ticket issuance.
4. Tickets are refundable, upgradeable and reroutable subject to applicable penalties.
5. No discount shall apply on this fare.

For more information, call 636-4938 or the travel agent nearest you.
www.cebupacificair.com

CEBU PACIFIC
You above all.
Ontime • GreatValue • Warm&CaringService

MANILA

Access Universe	926-8911 to 12
Supersonic Services	893-9607 to 08
Summit World (Manila)	636-8118 to 21

VISAYAS

Summit World (Bacolod)	(034) 434-2020 to 24
Skyliner (Cebu)	(032) 231-2113
Ramar Services (Dumaguete)	(035) 225-6850
Maves Group Services (Iloilo)	(033) 329-4660
Jonar Resources Inc. (Kalibo)	(036) 268-7264
Jonar Resources Inc. (Roxas)	(036) 621-0307
Summit World (Tacloban)	(053) 326-7747 to 48
East Asia Ticketing Services (Palawan)	(048) 433-5541

MINDANAO

Marian Air Inc. (Butuan)	(085) 341-8879
Summit World (Davao)	(082) 224-0961 to 62
Summit World (Cagayan)	(08822) 726-698
Summit World (Zamboanga)	(062) 993-1166

GMA-7 sees ₱640-M net profit

By Elena R. Torrijos

GMA Network Inc., the second largest broadcasting company in the country, sees profits hitting at least P640 million this year on the back of strong growth in the first quarter.

In a press briefing yesterday, GMA officials announced that the television network posted a net profit of P164 million, a reversal from the P600,000 net loss incurred in the first quarter last year.

They also reported that gross airtime revenue for the quarter surged 65 percent to P1.2 billion from P722 million in the same period last year.

Officials attributed the improved performance to increased investments in production of innovative programs, which eroded its major competitor's stronghold through higher program rating and increased audience share.

"If you use the first quarter as a base, easily we will hit P640 million," GMA Network senior vice president for finance Felipe Yalong told reporters.

In terms of operating expenses, GMA was able to control these at P649 million or 35 percent higher than the P481 million in the same period last year.

Meanwhile, GMA vice president for finance Ronaldo Mastrili said the network was looking at higher revenue and stronger operating cash flow this year as it undertook more innovative programming and expanded and upgraded its operations.

For this year, Mastrili said the GMA would set aside P204 million in capital expenditures mainly for maintenance expenses. The figure was lower than the P242 million in capital expenditures it set aside last year.

Mastrili disclosed that based on officially accredited ratings figures from AGB Philippines covering the 6 a.m. to 12 midnight viewership of roughly eight million households in Metro Manila and outlying provinces, leading broadcast network ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. had a rating of 14 percent while GMA's rating was 13 percent.

This showed that GMA had narrowed the rating gap from ABS-CBN's 18-percent rating in the first quarter of last year against GMA's 13-percent rating.

In terms of audience share, GMA also closed in on ABS-CBN to bring up its share to 36 percent from 31 percent as the Lopez-controlled media giant's share fell to 39 percent from 45 percent.

PLDT, Panay telecom firm to provide services to Boracay

By Abigail L. Ho

INDUSTRY leader Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. has formed a partnership with Panay Telephone Corp. for the provision of Internet and other data services to establishments on the island of Boracay in Aklan.

Under the agreement, PLDT will provide data solutions to resorts in Boracay while Pantelco will provide the last-mile connectivity within the island.

As Pantelco has a franchise for local exchange services in the area, it will also act as PLDT's channel partner there.

Aside from Internet access, Boracay resorts can also avail themselves of Internet protocol-virtual private network and property management services that can make their operations more efficient.

PLDT senior vice president and corporate business group head Alfredo Panlilio said these new data services on the island would help Boracay keep up with the competition from other tourist destinations in Asia and the world.

"PLDT and Pantelco believe in the full potential of (information and communications technology) in the tourism industry which has not been fully realized in the Philippines. With the partnership, we put communications technology tools within the reach of many tourism-related establishments," he said.

Pantelco general manager Cedric Sazon added that it had now become critical for the tourism industry to have timely transmission of information to their main offices as this helped tourism-related establishments compete and make their operations more efficient and profitable.

CHINABANK

CHINA BANKING CORPORATION

8745 Paseo de Roxas corner Villar St., Makati City

A full-service, universal bank serving you thru 139 branches and 163 ATMs nationwide

Celebrating 82 years of service since 1920

STATEMENT OF CONDITION
(Head Office and Branches)
As of MARCH 26, 2003

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Items		₱ 1,209,367,344
Due from Bangko Sentral		1,099,549,148
Due from Other Banks		4,798,030,181
Interbank Loans Receivable		8,050,351,029
Trading Accounts Securities (Net)		13,299,024,026
Investments in Bonds and Other Debt Instruments (Net)		27,485,011,908
Loans, Discounts & Advances (Net)		35,800,627,050
Equity Investments (Net)		177,421,826
Bank Premises, Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (Net)		2,965,152,151
Other Assets (Net):		
Property Owned/Acquired		4,262,958,915
Others		5,428,556,754
TOTAL ASSETS		₱ 104,576,050,332

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

LIABILITIES

Demand Deposits		₱ 9,095,887,417
Savings Deposits		30,740,195,070
Time Deposits		36,426,378,896
Special/Other Deposits		95,977,035
Due to Bangko Sentral		44,633,015
Due to Banks		734,587
Outstanding Checks/Payment Orders		352,309,952
Bills Payable		7,014,470,325
Unearned Income and Other Deferred Credits		805,983,049
Other Liabilities		4,054,940,821
TOTAL LIABILITIES		₱ 88,631,510,147

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

Capital Stock		₱ 3,209,289,026
Surplus		10,605,524,046
Surplus Reserves		271,708,478
Other Capital Accounts		1,858,018,635
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		₱ 15,944,540,185
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		₱ 104,576,050,332

CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS

Unused Commercial Letters of Credit		₱ 2,063,449,720
Bills for Collection		383,090,118
Spot/Future Exchange Sold		0
Spot/Future Exchange Bought		8,843,914,436
Assets Held Under Trust and Investment Management Agreements		25,574,029,738
Invested In:		
Government Securities	₱15,285,323,554	
Other Securities, Debt Instruments and Shares of Stock	607,354,629	
Loans and Discounts	2,187,370,771	
Other Assets	7,493,980,784	
Accountabilities:		
Trust and Other Fiduciary	22,340,006,278	
Common Trust Funds	850,845,471	
Investment/Fund Management	2,542,145,061	
Unearned Income & Other Accountabilities	(158,967,072)	
Other contingent accounts		2,454,426,453
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS		₱ 39,298,910,465

OTHER INFORMATION:

1. Deposits of:		
A) Government		₱ 43,242,570
B) Banks		177,586,784
C) Trust department		10,002,878
2. Compliance with Magna Carta Law:		
Prescribed Ratio of Compliance	*6% For Small Ent.*	*2% For Medium Ent.*
Actual Compliance	182%	619%
3. Amount of non-performing loans		7,973,579,199
4. Ratio of non-performing loans to total loan portfolio		14.21%
5. Amount of classified loans and other risk assets		14,102,842,712
6. General provision for loan losses		2,335,346,034
7. Specific provision for loan losses		3,174,895,224
8. Return on Equity		18.34%
9. DOSRI loans/advances		2,383,125,683
10. Ratio to total loan portfolio		4.69%
11. Past due DOSRI loans/advances		19,436,895
12. Ratio to total loan portfolio		0.04%

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
CITY OF MAKATI } S. S.

We, ZACARIAS B. ANTONIO and RICARDO R. CHUA, of the above mentioned Bank, do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above statement of condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

(Sgd.) ZACARIAS B. ANTONIO
Chief Accountant

(Sgd.) RICARDO R. CHUA
Executive Vice President &
Chief Operating Officer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME this April 21, 2003, affiants exhibiting to me their Residence Certificate No. 14426818 issued at Makati on February 12, 2003 and Residence Certificate No. 12419550 issued at Manila on January 14, 2003, respectively.

Doc. No. 19
Page No. 5
Book No. 33
Series of 2002

(Sgd.) BELENETTE Y. CHING TAN
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2003
PTR No. 7625272 Makati 1-8-03
TIN 153-062-566

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONDITION
(Bank and Financial Subsidiaries)
As of MARCH 26, 2003

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Items		₱ 1,204,267,907
Due from Bangko Sentral		1,099,549,148
Due from Other Banks		4,798,030,181
Interbank Loans Receivable		8,050,351,029
Trading Accounts Securities (Net)		13,299,024,026
Investments in Bonds and Other Debt Instruments (Net)		27,570,868,046
Loans, Discounts & Advances (Net)		35,800,627,050
Equity Investments (Net)		125,921,826
Bank Premises, Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (Net)		2,966,025,092
Other Assets (Net):		
Property Owned/Acquired		4,262,958,915
Others		5,479,568,188
TOTAL ASSETS		₱ 104,657,191,408

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

LIABILITIES

Demand Deposits		₱ 9,095,887,417
Savings Deposits		30,740,195,070
Time Deposits		36,426,378,896
Special/Other Deposits		95,977,035
Due to Bangko Sentral		44,633,015
Due to Banks		734,567
Outstanding Checks/Payment Orders		352,309,952
Bills Payable		7,014,470,325
Unearned Income and Other Deferred Credits		836,681,850
Other Liabilities		4,105,383,096
TOTAL LIABILITIES		₱ 88,712,651,223
Minority Interest in Subsidiary		₱. 0

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

Capital Stock		₱ 3,209,289,026
Surplus		10,605,524,046
Surplus Reserves		271,708,478
Other Capital Accounts		1,858,018,635
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		₱ 15,944,540,185
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		₱ 104,657,191,408

CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS

Unused Commercial Letters of Credit		₱ 2,063,449,720
Bills for Collection		383,090,118
Spot/Future Exchange Sold		0
Spot/Future Exchange Bought		8,843,914,436
Assets Held Under Trust and Investment Management Agreements		25,574,029,738
Invested In:		
Government Securities	₱15,285,323,554	
Other Securities, Debt Instruments and Shares of Stock	607,354,629	
Loans and Discounts	2,187,370,771	
Other Assets	7,493,980,784	
Accountabilities:		
Trust and Other Fiduciary	22,340,006,278	
Common Trust Funds	850,845,471	
Investment/Fund Management	2,542,145,061	
Unearned Income & Other Accountabilities	(158,967,072)	
Other contingent accounts		2,454,426,453
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS		₱ 39,298,910,465

OTHER INFORMATION:

1. Deposits of:	
A) Government	₱ 43,242,570
B) Banks	177,586,784
C) Trust Department	10,002,878

2. List of Bank's Financial Subsidiaries
A) CBC FOREX CORPORATION
B) CBC INSURANCE BROKERS, INC.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
CITY OF MAKATI } S. S.

We, ZACARIAS B. ANTONIO and RICARDO R. CHUA, of the above mentioned Bank, do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above statement of condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

(Sgd.) ZACARIAS B. ANTONIO
Chief Accountant

(Sgd.) RICARDO R. CHUA
Executive Vice President &
Chief Operating Officer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME this April 21, 2003, affiants exhibiting to me their Residence Certificate No. 14426818 issued at Makati on February 12, 2003 and Residence Certificate No. 12419550 issued at Manila on January 14, 2003, respectively.

Doc. No. 20
Page No. 5
Book No. 33
Series of 2002

(Sgd.) BELENETTE Y. CHING TAN
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2003
PTR No. 7625272 Makati 1-8-03
TIN 153-062-566

Your success is our business

MEMBER: BancNet & PDIC (Maximum insurance deposit for each depositor - ₱100,000.00)

ICTSI eyes 4 foreign projects

AGRESSIVELY pursuing its expansion overseas, International Container Terminal Services Inc. is looking at four ports in the Middle East and Africa including Umm Qasr in Iraq.

In a briefing with reporters yesterday following the company's annual stockholders' meeting, ICTSI chair and chief executive Enrique'Razon Jr. said the company was eyeing the Beirut port in Lebanon and ports in Kenya and Rwanda, aside from the Umm Qasr port.

Razon noted that Kenya and Rwanda were "high-growth" countries.

Regarding Iraq, Razon said: "We are definitely interested in doing business in the port there. We will closely monitor that in the coming weeks, months, however long it will take."

In the meantime, Razon said that ICTSI was focusing on its business in the Baltic Container Terminal in Gdynia, Poland.

Razon said the company hoped to start operations of the Polish port this June.

To acquire the port operations, ICTSI is spending $40 million from internally generated cash and from borrowings.

"We are very excited about Gdynia, particularly as Poland is scheduled to become the EU's (European Union's) newest member in 2004. We see tremendous growth opportunities with Poland's entry into the EU," Razon said.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of April 24, 2003)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	4.05	4.1	4.05	4.1	18,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	15.5	16	15.5	16	3,800
Bank of the Phil. Islands	35.5	36	35.5	35.5	278,200
Citystate Savings Bank	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	25	25	24	24	226,500
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	28	28	27.5	28	75,000
Philippine National Bank	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	8,000
Phil. Savings Bank	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.5	100
Union Bank of the Phil.	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	5,000
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Bankard Inc.	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	305,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	20,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1380	1390	1380	1390	1,340
Pci Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	10,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1050	1060	1050	1060	3,420
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	5,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.71	0.71	0.69	0.7	4,530,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	560	570	560	565	86,750
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.032	0.034	0.032	0.034	6,500,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	4,000,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.35	380,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	387.5	390	380	382.5	132,220
Philweb Corp.	0.013	0.013	0.012	0.013	27,600,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.2	74,000
Manila Electric Co. B	10.25	10.25	9.8	9.9	412,000
Petron Corp.	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1,787,000
Trans-Asia Oil And Energy	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	550,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	10,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.55	2.55	2.5	2.5	23,000
Keppel Phils. Marine, Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	50,000
William,Gothong & Aboitiz	2	2	2	2	2,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.58	0.58	2,330,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	30,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Jollibee Foods Corp.	16	16.5	16	16.25	336,200
La Tondena Distillers,Inc.	32.5	32.5	32.5	32.5	500
RFM Corp.	0.76	0.76	0.75	0.75	370,000
San Miguel Corp. A	57.5	57.5	57	57.5	34,200
San Miguel Corp. B	66.5	66.5	66	66.5	83,200
Universal Robina Corp.	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.45	819,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	110,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	4.05	4.05	3.95	4	4,555,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.029	0.029	0.027	0.028	3,100,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	580,000
APC Group Inc.	0.0825	0.0825	0.0825	0.0825	200,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	2,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	80,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	10,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	20,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	50,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.22	0.23	0.215	0.22	6,170,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.24	1,360,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	8	8	7.9	7.9	182,000
Ionics Inc.	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	100,000
Macroasia Corp.	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.58	150,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	700,000
Music Corp.	0.34	0.36	0.34	0.36	1,630,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	500,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77	100,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	350,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Metro Alliance Holdings	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	167,000
Metro Alliance Hldgs B	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	20,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	1.48	2	1.38	1.88	3,963,000
Prime Gaming Phils. Inc.	28	28	24	24	2,200
SPI Technologies Inc.	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	125,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.38	0.38	1,850,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	200,000
Manila Jockey Club	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	12,000
Mondragon Intl Phils, Inc.	0.15	0.18	0.15	0.16	260,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	80,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10	10	10	10	2,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10	10	10	10	5,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10	10	10	10	1,000
WGA - Preferred	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	30,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5	5.1	4.95	4.95	800,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	140,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.175	0.175	0.16	0.16	250,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.2	0.235	0.2	0.235	6,520,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.175	0.175	0.17	0.175	5,200,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	30,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	0.94	0.94	0.9	0.91	7,420,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	1,500,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	5,000
SM Development Corp.	1.1	1.12	1.1	1.12	41,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	4.95	4.95	4.8	4.85	1,930,000
MINING					
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.19	0.19	0.185	0.185	1,700,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.0028	0.003	0.0028	0.003	18,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	1,000,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	100,000
OIL					
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	13,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	20,000,000
Pacifica	0.0095	0.0095	0.009	0.009	3,000,000

DISCLOSURES

ELECTED directors of Trans-Asia and Energy Development Corp. were Ramon del Rosario, Oscar Hilado, Antonio del Rosario, Magdaleno Albarracin Jr., Ramon del Rosario Jr., Francisco Viray, Reynaldo Paulino, Alfredo Velayo, Raymundo Feliciano, Ricardo Camua and Epifania Godinez.

* * *

ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on May 29, 8 a.m. at Studio 1 of ABS-CBN Broadcast Center Complex, Quezon City. Only stockholders of record as of April 15 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

BANKARD Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on May 29, 2:30 p.m. at St. La Salle Hall, Tower II of RCBC Plaza, Makati City. Stockholders of record as of April 29 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

CURRENCIES

April 24, 2003 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.929282	1.000000	53.692000
Japan	Yen	0.007873	0.008472	0.454900
United Kingdom	Pound	1.508782	1.623600	87.174300
Hongkong	Dollar	0.119154	0.128222	6.884500
Switzerland	Franc	0.682693	0.734646	39.444600
Canada	Dollar	0.609565	0.655953	35.219400
Singapore	Dollar	0.536692	0.577534	31.009000
Australia	Dollar	0.549383	0.591191	31.742200
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.465069	2.652661	142.426700
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.247822	0.266681	14.318600
Brunei	Dollar	0.535146	0.575871	30.919700
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000105	0.000113	0.006100
Thailand	Baht	0.021794	0.023452	1.259200
UAE	Dirham	0.253010	0.272264	14.618400
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.076100	57.778000
ArgentinaPeso	0.295949	0.318471	17.099300	
Brazil	REAL	0.264001	0.284091	15.253400
Denmark	Kroner	0.134456	0.144688	7.768600
India	Rupee	0.019433	0.020912	1.122800
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.244580	0.263193	14.131400
Mexico	New Peso	0.086606	0.093197	5.003900
New Zealand	Dollar	0.508304	0.546986	29.368800
Norway	Kroner	0.133814	0.143997	7.731500
Pakistan	Rupee	0.016036	0.017256	0.926500
South Africa	Rand	0.106925	0.115062	6.177900
Korea	Won	0.000797	0.000858	0.046100
Sweden	Kroner	0.108144	0.116374	6.248400
Syria	Pound	0.018044	0.019417	1.042500
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.026928	0.028977	1.555800
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000484	0.000521	0.028000

INTEREST RATES

April 24, 2003-MART1 Rates

Benchmark Interest Rates	MART1 24-Apr-03 (%)	MART1 23-Apr-03 (%)
1 Month	8.1461	8.1212
3 Months	8.3308	8.3288
6 Months	8.9865	8.9404
1 Year	9.655	9.6615
2 Years	10.3135	10.6596
3 Years	11.125	11.6058
4 Years	11.9289	12.3981
5 Years	12.2327	12.6769
7 Years	12.8981	13.1442
10 Years	13.1558	13.5038
20 Years	13.775	13.9577
25 Years	14.2558	14.4

SOURCE: MART1-BLOOMBERG

Dumped in Dasma

THE oral arguments originally scheduled for yesterday regarding the ejectment of socialite Diana Jeanne "DJ" Lopez from her long-time home in Dasmarinas Village has been postponed by the Supreme Court to a yet-to-be determined date.

Lopez had been living in the Paraiso Street house since the 1980s until late last year when the alleged new owners, ex-Citibanker Edilberto Pozon and his wife Eveline (the latter is the mysterious lady in black who shared the Edsa II center stage with GMA), obtained a lower court order ejecting the socialite.

This prompted Lopez, the mother of model/boutique manager Claudia Bermudez, to seek judicial relief from the higher courts.

Without going into the thicket of legal arguments, this apparently was what happened:

- Lopez, "assisted" by her friend Rodolfo Cuenca, acquired the house and lot at 2149 Paraiso St. from Don Enrique Zobel sometime in August 1980.
- Cuenca, who was the construction kingpin at that time, instructed his lawyer (now deceased) Cesar Beltran "to organize a corporation for Ms Lopez to be owned by her which would hold the property."

The property "is solely owned by Ms Lopez," Cuenca declared in his 1996 sworn statement. "She purchased it for value and in good faith."

- With the government's takeover of the debt-ridden Construction and Development Corporation of the Philippines, Cuenca's construction conglomerate, and Cuenca's fallout with the Marcoses, the construction tycoon was forced to go into overseas exile.
- Sometime during his exile, Cuenca's son Roberto forced open his dad's safe and said he found the title to the Paraiso property, which he dutifully turned over to his mother, Jasmine.
- As Cuenca the father later discovered after he returned from exile, instead of following his instructions, his lawyer Beltran and his law partners "by means of deceit…caused the property to be registered in their names, their nominees, and in manners suggesting that they themselves had ownership and control of the property."
- In the meantime, the title to the Paraiso property changed hands thrice since the 1980 acquisition, with the Pozons finally buying it in December 1986 despite having been apprised of its entanglements and without having set foot inside the house.
- Edilberto Pozon told the court that Cuenca the father went in early 1987 to see him in Hong Kong, where Pozon was then based, offering to return Pozon's money so Lopez could "get the property in her name." Having already acquired the property heavily discounted, P2 million, the Pozons refused.
- Right after the Cuenca visit, the Pozons sued the vendor, including the lawyer-nominees, for specific performance but without impleading Lopez. Pozon won financial compensation although the 1990 Makati Regional Trial Court judgment did not expressly grant possession of the Paraiso property to the Pozons.
- Lopez, fearing she would go homeless in her retirement years, sought to protect her ownership of the property by filing an action, still pending in another branch of the Makati Regional Trial Court, for quieting of title.
- Before he died, Beltran wrote to assure Lopez that "as soon as the case is finally terminated and ownership of the property is recognized, you can count on our firm commitment that we shall execute the necessary deed of absolute sale [where] by such deed ownership over the property shall be conferred on you and the title thereof registered in your name."

Beltran's letter was co-signed by his law partner, Cesar Diomampo.

Meanwhile, Cuenca the father has been forbidden by his wife and children from communicating with Lopez ever again.

Heard through the grapevine

SEN. Gregorio Honasan, businesswoman Nora Bitong and former Inquirer chair Eugenia Apostol are now buddies again, their common denominator being they all now find themselves estranged from their ex-principal, Juan Ponce Enrile.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

Stocks drop 1.24% …

From page B1

Finance Secretary Jose Camacho earlier said the government would review its economic targets this year to consider the possible impact of an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

The Philippines, which has several probable but as yet unconfirmed cases of the deadly virus, is targeting growth of 4.2 to 5.2 percent this year. The economy expanded 4.6 percent in 2002.

AB Capital economic analyst Jose Vistan expected the market to remain weak.

"There will still be a downward bias but the decline won't be steep. The corrective days of the market are almost over," he said. "We see the market's immediate support at 1,060." *Reuters*

Sign up for the best experience to enjoy life.

Open a Priority One Checking Account now!

You've worked hard to get where you are, and there's no better time to enjoy life but now. **PNB Priority One Checking Account** is a checking account that offers a rewards program to help you get the most out of your hard work and foster even greater relations with the bank that knows how to serve you well.

Designed to fit your specific financial needs, **PNB Priority One** comes with a power-packed convenience of a personalized Checkbook, ATM card and Phone Banking access. Earn rewards points (*every P1,000.00 Year-to-Date ADB = 1 point*) that are convertible to:

- *Air miles for both domestic and overseas trips via PAL and Air Philippines*
- *Dinner gift certificates at select 5-star hotels and restaurants*

For an initial deposit and minimum balance of P25,000.00, enjoy unlimited privileges and increased banking amenities such as *P100,000.00 maximum daily withdrawal thru the ATM, 1.25% interest per annum,* and *Personal Accident Insurance coverage.*

For more inquiries, visit any PNB Branch near you or call Tel. Nos. 526-3471, 573-4335, and Trunk Lines 891-6040 to 70 and 526-3131 to 68 loc. 2013/4335.

With **PNB Priority One,** it's our way of saying you deserve the best out of life.

Member of Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to P100,000.

PRIORITY

PNB

We manage risks, we provide opportunities

www.pnb.com.ph

Autohaus BMW

Sheer Driving Pleasure

Autohaus BMW.
The new name for customer care.

Prestige Cars, Inc. (Libis) is now Autohaus BMW.

A new name for the same reassuring faces. Those who put a premium on customer relations, helping hundreds of people select their dream vehicle.

Making room for you in our fully renovated and expanded BMW sales and service facilities—already, the biggest in the country.

Like Mario. Mario M. Gloria, Vice President for Vehicle Sales. Giving out sheer driving pleasure with the latest line of BMW vehicles.

Or Tonton. John Anthony G. Aquino, our BMW Certified Pre-Owned Manager. Keeping the faith in the BMW Certified Pre-Owned cars. And making it known that, sometimes brand is more important than new.

In serving you, they let you take the driver seat. Go-getters and mind readers. Part of the original Prestige team—the guys who actually helped make BMW the country's No. 1 selling European luxury car.

Call it caring. Or call us by our new name.

Visit us at 184 E Rodriguez Jr Ave Libis, Quezon City 1110 • Tel 02 638 07 34 to 43

416th Founding Anniversary of TAGUIG

Messages

MALACAÑANG PALACE
MANILA

I extend my warmest felicitations to the local officials and townspeople of the Municipality og Taguig as you celebrate your 416th Founding Anniversary.

This festivity manifests your commitment to community progress. May the exciting activities highlighting the history, people, places and accomplishments of your municipality make for a joyful and meaningful celebration.

I have committed the remaining months of my Administration to strengthening the economy, healing the deep divisions within out society and to working for clean and honest elections in 2004. I trust that you are one with me in this endeavor.

Arduous and difficult challenges lie before us, but with our combined efforts and self sacrifice, we shall rise above them and surge ahead in moving our nation forward. Let this momentous event spur each of us to build a strong Philippine republic.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I wish to convey my warmest facilitation to the officials and good people of the Municipality of Taguig as they hold their 416th Founding Anniversary on April 25, this year.

The Department of Interior and Local Government takes cognizance of your accomplishments and endeavor to undertake ways in providing effective delivery of basic services to our people. The enthusiasm you have shown in undertaking this activity reflects the commitment of your leaders and residents in bringing forth integral development to our locality.

May this year's celebration inspire your leaders and the people to further strive for excellence in governance towards the overall effort to bringing progress and prosperity particularly in your area, and in building a Strong Republic.

mabuhay po kayong lahat!

Jose D. Lina, Jr.
Secretary

MUNICIPALITY OF TAGUIG
Office of the Mayor

May warmest greetings to our townmates on the celebration of our 416th founding anniversary.

Today, I thank the people of Taguig for your trust and confidence in my leadership; your unwavering support in my ability to lead the town towards the path to growth and development.

The road to peace and progress is not always easy but with our combined efforts, your unstinting commitment and cooperation, success could not be far behind.

Let peace reign in our hearts. Let us continuously join hands in moving our municipality forward. Let transparaency in governance and the sincerity to work for the beterment of each other's life be our inspiration for a better Taguig.

Forward Taguig!

SIGFRIDO "FREDDIE" R. TIÑGA
Mayor

Recall move fizzles out, Tagüigeños rejoice

A most important development happened in Taguig recently, and it concerns the bitterly contested campaign to recall Mayor Freddie Tinga launched by his political detractors.

The Commission on Elections (Comelec) saw through the maneuvers that attended the Cayetano drive to oust Tinga using the Preparatory Recall Assembly (PRA) and the en banc decided by a majority vote in late March to finally drive the final nail on the coffin of the ill-thought and ill-motivated scheme.

In its 18-page decision, the Comelec declared PRA Resolution No. 02-1 as invalid for two reasons.

First was that the resolution did not comply with the notice requirement to all members of the PRA.

Second was that the PRA did not attain the required majority. votes of 82 out of the 162 PRA members in Taguig.

These determinations hewed closely to the arguments of the Tinga camp that the PRA could not have been legally convened since the conditions that attended the so-called meeting were fraught with legal infirmities.

Comelec Chairman Benjamin Abalos took cognizance of the recall petition initiated by the foes of Tinga and named lawyer Esmeralda A. Ladra, to verify whether the signatures of the PRA members were authentic. On September 25, 2002, those who attended the PRA were haled by Ladra to appear before her and verify their signatures and thumbmarks on the recall resolution.

Ladra eventually found out that out of the 162 PRA members, two were not sent notices of the assembly. Only 103 members were validly served such notices, she said.

Worse, two of the signatories to the resolution—Kagawad Agapito S. Herrera of Barangay Sta. Ana and Kagawad Alma S. Abbilul of Barangay Maharlika—did not appear during the verification of signatures and instead executed affidavits withdrawing their signatures on the recall resolution, claiming they were against the move and were only forced to sign the resolution because of their trip to Subic, where the PRA members were treated to a supposed seminar and "quarantined" for three days.

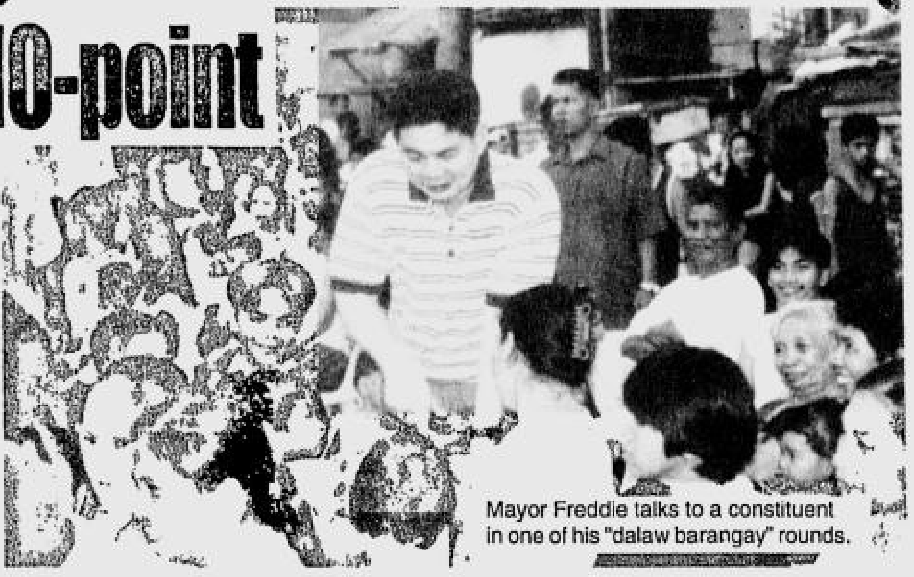
These two barangay officials were also joined by two other councilmen— Khalid Abu Hashim of Barangay Maharlika Village and Ricardo S. Batobato of Barangay Ligid-Tipas—who also junked their signatures on the document.

The signatures of two other PRA members--Barangay Bambang Kagawad Cesar V. Franco and Barangay Signal Village Kagawad Mauro C. Lino--appeared to have been dubious.

Tinga counsel Sixto Brillantes also said that the Comelec decided correctly since Ladra discovered that the PRA was not convened in a public place and that the genuineness of the signatures in the petition were not established.

Comelec stressed that given these rock-hard findings, the recall resolution championed by Mayor Tinga's detractors. was doomed. It was invalid. "As such, without a valid recall resolution to initiate the recall of Mayor Tinga, Comelec cannot give due course to the recall election in Taguig."

Mayor Tinga unveils his 10-point program for progress



Mayor Freddie talks to a constituent in one of his "dalaw barangay" rounds.

TAGUIG has achieved significant success in its drive to transform itself from a town into a bustling metropolis in the National Capital Region (NCR), and perhaps become the region's last frontier for growth.

To ensure that Taguig would eventually be the growth center of the NCR, the administration, under the leadership of Mayor Sigfrido "Freddie" Tinga, has drawn up what has been dubbed as a blueprint for growth with equity, which guarantees that progress redounds to the best interest of its residents, and not merely appropriated by a few.

A prosperous urban center is expected to take care of the health and social needs of its people, and that is precisely the first point of the program designed by Mayor Tinga. As a result of this, Taguig devised its own health cards, and 4,000 such cards were distributed in August 2002 to benefit 20,000 people. This year, an additional 6,000 beneficiaries will get their health cards.

More health centers will be built in addition to the 21 already existing to provide better health care to more people. Regular medical are also conducted to depressed neighborhoods and 45 such missions have been launched in cooperation with civic and cause-oriented groups. The Taguig Health Department also achieved 100 percent efficiency in administering oral polio vaccine and children have been vaccinated against tuberculosis, diphtheria and measles.

Education is the second thrust of the 10-point program. There are now 93 day care center from 30 during the previous administration and they serve 9,000 pupils. The plan is to increase the number further to 130. Of note us the commitment of the Tinga administration to reduce the classroom shortage that has led to a ratio of 1:100, or one room for 100 students. To solve this problem, Taguig secured a loan from the Logofind Project to finance the construction of 140 elementary schoolrooms, and two more schoolbuildings—in North Daang Hari and Napindan—are being built. Existing structures are also being refurbished to accommodate more classrooms.

The Taguig Science High School was also organized for students who excel in science and mathematics. As scholars, each of the 86 members of the first batch has been given a monthly stipend of P500 in addition to free books, notebooks and other educational supplies.

In its desire to bring infotech education to all students, Taguig has launched a computer literacy program in public schools, with 103 computers distributed to seven elementary schools that now give basic computer laboratory classes to Grades 5 and 6 pupils.

Youth and sports development is the third element in the program pushed by Mayor Tinga. The Taguig Basketball Association (TBA) has become the biggest basketball league in all of Asia, with 166 teams comprised of 2,324 players from 18 barangays participating. A total of 860 players from 54 teams are registered with the Taguig Volleyball Association (TVA), the biggest such league in the country.

More covered courts and multi-purpose halls have been constructed, with four in Barangays Upper Bicutan and Signal Village. Two other courts are about to be completed in Barangays West Bicutan and Bagong Tanyag.

In setting role models for the youth, Mayor Tinga also formed the Taguig Outstanding Youth Leaders, which is the crème of the crop in Taguig. Members of this group will be deployed to promote the values the youth need to excel in different fields of endeavor.

Peace and order is another matter that has been addressed by the Tinga program. Since Taguig has one of the lowest police to population ratio of 2,880:1, the mayor devised the Taguig Outpost Patrol, 14 of which have been established out of the 50 on the planning board. These outposts would immensely help in crime prevention. Apart from these, the Special Response Team (SRT) was also organized to receive and act upon complaints and deliver basic services as well.

The Taguig Anti-Drug Abuse Council also implemented mandatory drug tests among all municipal officials and employees, the local police and the 18 barangays. In this manner, Taguig hopes to eventually be the NCR's first drug-free municipality.

Fourteen sub-precincts will be established in addition to the seven already existing, thus bringing to 21 the number of precincts serving 18 barangays. Hand-held radios have been given to the police in addition to patrol cars to enhance visibility and quick response to emergencies.

Housing and shelter are undoubtedly a most serious need in the metropolis and Taguig has responded to this by coordinating with Habitat for Humanity in launching mass housing projects. Two such projects are set to start in Pinagsama Village in Barangay Western Bicutan and in Barangay Bagumbayan.

The urban poor have been the main beneficiaries of the socialized housing program launched through a loan from the National Home Mortgage and Finance Corp. (NHMFC). The Community Mortgage Program (CMP) has been implemented in Barangay Calzada in Tipas, and in Barangays Sta. Ana, Bagumbayan and Bagong Tanyag.

Mayor Tinga thanks the people of Taguig for their trust and confidence in him

Mayor Freddie Tinga says his administration owes a lot to the unstinting support of the people of Taguig.

"Had our constituents not been committed to our collective desire to push programs and projects designed to streamline the bureaucracy and promote a culture of efficiency and sincerity, Taguig would not have launched and succeeded in pushing the condition for growth in the town," the mayor adds.

Tinga has thanked the overwhelming majority of the people of Taguig for rejecting the recall move launched aginst him by his political detractors.

This show support and belkief in him has pushed him to work harder and better to prove that all his critics are wrong, and by attacking his administration and undermining it, they are working against the best interests of Taguig.

The young mayor, a frist timer, has pledged to heed the call of the people of Taguig for the promotion of transpareny and honesty in public service.

"It will be an article of faith for me," Tenga explains, "never to compromise the interest of Taguig to the powerful cliques that have wanted to render the local leadership incapable of pursuing its mandate."

Tinga is now working feverishly to promote the 10-point programe designed to make Taguig a prosperous, just and progressive town and eventually as a city, and probably as the last frontier of economic development on the National Capital Region (NCR).

The mayor admits that without the support of the people of Taguig, his administration would be battling the mindless and malicious trades by political personalities who have done their worst against the very government they are supposed to help, promote and protect.

Mayor Freddie receives the Apolinario Mabini Award from President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for championing the cause of the disabled.

TAGUIG
BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION

Mayor Freddie together with Senator Jaworski, light the torch during the opening ceremonies of the Taguig Basketball Association (TBA), the biggest local basketball league in Asia.

The Tinga administration also passed an ordinance allowing the transformation of idle farmlands into residential areas in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR).

To ensure that Taguig is always clean and green, which is necessary to prevent flooding and ensure that the town is never inundated, Mayor Tinga declogged, dredged and cleared all creeks, rivers and waterways, resulting in clearing 80 percent of the Taguig River and about half of the Tipas River of water lilies and solid waste. Since over 75 percent of waterways have been cleaned, no flooding has occurred in Taguig lately.

Taguig officials and employees have also been instructed to render community service, setting the example in cleaning up creeks, canals, rivers and waterways and tidying up the entire town. Garbage collection has been improved and an educational campaign has been launched to improve discipline among the people in disposing of their waste. A total of 288 streetsweepers using 150 garbage trolleys have been deployed to keep the streets and sidewalks clean.

Infrastructures and utilities are a main concern of the Tinga administration. With these in place, Taguig can be expected to attract more investors and draw in more businesses.

No less than 322 250-watt street lamps have been installed along C-5's center aisles in coordination with the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), Pagcor and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). Taguig pays for the monthly electric bill.

A total of 381 infrastructure projects have been accomplished by the Tinga administration, ranging from upgrading to building road networks and bridges, pathways, school buildings, day care centers, basketball courts and multi-purpose halls, playgrounds, drainage systems, rip-rapping of creeks and installation of water supply systems. The total cost of all these projects was P129,752,653.79.

Much has been done to solve the problem of inadequate water supply in several barangays through the laying of pipes by Manila Water. The laying of these pipes, long the request of the residence in Barangays Western Bicutan, Lower Bicutan, Signal Village, Bambang and along C-5, has been completed. Local organizations, under the guidance of the Local Utility Board, have been tapped to ensure that payment of minimal rates by subscribers will be made promptly.

Employment generation is another key element in the 10-point program. No less than 9,466 jobseekers were placed in local and foreign corporations through the Taguig Public Employment Services Office (PESO). By September 27, 2002, some 4,195 applicants have been set for interview and possible job placement. Job fairs have been held regularly, while students were given summer jobs under the Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES).

A professional bureaucracy that is transparent, efficient and honest is a crucial factor in ensuring the promotion of business and good governance. This is recognized as a vital cog of the 10-point program pursued by Mayor Tinga.

In effect, the increased tax collection from January 1, 2002 to December 30, 2002, which amounts to P564.635 million was a testament to the efficiency of the local government unit headed by Mayor Tinga. The amount represents a 28.31 percent jump from the P440.046 million collection collected by the previous administration for the equivalent period despite a decrease in the tax rates. Taguig is set to breach the P600-million mark in collections.

Tinga also improved the various offices under him and placed them in areas more accessible to the people, thus ensuring a smoother flow of transactions. To further hasten transactions, he resorted to computerization of the entire bureaucracy, thus shortening the span of time needed to complete transactions to the benefit of personnel and residents alike.

Investors have been drawn to Taguig because of the efficiency engendered by the Tinga administration, which has made it a cardinal rule to compete for the biggest and most job-intensive investments hereabouts.

Tinga has also brought his administration closer to the people by his regular "dalaw barangay," which allows him to deal directly with his constituents and address their problems. He has also institutionalized "ulat sa bayan" which informs the people about the achievements of the government and what has been done to solve outstanding issues in a straightforward manner.

Taguig has also updated its civil registry system, ensuring that all records are kept secure and ready for release to constituents. All records of births and deaths are kept and updated and submitted to proper authorities, like the Commission on Elections (Comelec). Records of marriages are also kept, while changes in civil registry records have been made under a new law governing changes on account of typographical errors. The town has also launched mass weddings to legalize the unions of unmarried couples and thus legitimize their offspring.

Pride in Taguig is regarded as sacrosanct by its leaders, and the program crafted by Tinga precisely promotes local traditions, starting with religious feasts to honor patron saints like Sto. Niño in Signal Village and the Sta. Anang Banak in Barangay Sta. Ana, which is perhaps the only fluvial procession indigenous to Metro Manila.

Inculcating civic pride in Taguig is part of the 10-point program, and this pride is shown in the way the people of the town cherish their traditions and folkways, matters that the Taguig Tourism Council knows could be parlayed into something positive and productive.

Bringing government closer to the people

FT Center is a boon for Taguig taxpayers

One program that has become a hallmark of Taguig Mayor Freddie Tinga is the Fast Transactions (FT) Center.

FT Centers actually groups all the offices that taxpayers have to deal with in one place, thus saving taxpayers their valuable time while ensuring that service will be fast and efficient.

Taxpayers and investors using FT Centers are thus treated to an express-lane type of service, which guarantees them swift processing and eliminates the necessity of fixers and other intermediaries.

In this manner, graft is practically eliminated.

Under the system, all employees and officials in FT Centers are given identification cards,

All those who do not have such identity cards are thus weaned away from the express lane and their extraneous services rendered unnecessary.

Tinga said that the less number of people handling official government business at FT Centers has led to a most efficient system of processing papers and other matters that otherwise would have taken longer under the old system.

He hopes FT Centers would become a model for all offices in Taguig.

Tinga is not new to being a model or being an awardee.

Recently, the President bestowed upon him the Apolinario Mabini Award for championing the cause of the disabled in Malacañang.

He was cited for providing valuable assistance to the Goodwill Industry of the Philippines (GIP), an organization that has been working for the disabled and the disadvantaged nationwide.

Tinga has been cited for his skills training program for the disabled, job placements and rehabilitation services. He also provided doctors and nurses for GIP.

He was also cited for providing 20 wheelchairs for those who need them in Taguig and for helping 183 cleft palate patients in his Operation Smile.

The award was launched in 1974 by the Philippine Foundation for the Rehabilitaiton of the Disabled, Inc. (PFRD).

Mayor Tinga uses air waves to serve his constituents better

Employs FT Nights to tap local talents

One of the few municipal executives in the country ever to use a radio program on a regular basis is Taguig Mayor Freddie Tinga.

His show is aired every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on DZAR- Angel Radio.

The show has a catchy name: "Freddie Ka Na Ba? Tinig Ng Taguig!"

Tinga's show is unique in that it has shifting venues, and each week's show is like no other.

All the barangays in Taguig, and there are 18 of them, are visited one after another, ensuring that for the entire year, the mayor would be able to visit each one at least thrice.

One section of the show is called "Isangguni Mo Kay Mayor," which gives all constituents the chance to talk directly with Tinga.

By hearing and acting on the problems right on the site, Tinga hopes to give a clear signal to everyone that he is a local executive who goes down to the grassroots, and delivers services without intermediaries.

Another program that Tinga has employed to generate popular enthusiasm is FT Nights, or Friday Talent Nights, which aims to discover the best singers that the 18 barangays in Taguig could offer.

Started on March 7, FT Nights has been packing them in, putting the best singers from each barangay to do battle with other equally gifted vocal talents.

Open to all of his constituents from age one to 91, FT Nights has become a much-awaited weekly event in Taguig.

Winners at the barangay level competitions take home cash and other prizes.

The grand finals of the weekly singing contest will be held in December 2003, and big prizes await the best of the best signers of Taguig.

Fort Bonifacio joins Taguig celebration

Fort Bonifacio is part of Taguig and an 18-page order handed down by Pasig City Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 153-Judge Briccio Ygaña only affirms what had been the firm belief by everyone—that the sprawling military reservation is within the territory of the town.

Judge Ygaña had thus torpedoed the bid of Makati City to stop Taguig from exercising its jurisdiction over the big piece of prime property. The judge earlier enjoined Makati from exercising jurisdiction over Fort Bonifacio but the issue was appealed, only for the magistrate to deny the same.

Taguig officials exulted over the order, noting that the decision virtually vindicates Mayor Freddie Tinga's insistence for the town to exercise its prerogatives over a contested area.

Former Taguig Rep. Dante Tinga said the order is remarkable in that it did not only confirm the jurisdiction of Taguig over the property of the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) and the Global City Project but also "clarified that what Makati calls 'Barangay Southside' is also within Taguig's jurisdiction."

The judge said that the injunction must stick since there was nothing unlawful done by Taguig. He added: "Taguig is authorized to exercise jurisdiction over the area in question. There was nothing unlawful and improper for the plaintiff (Taguig) to put a police station in any part of the Inner Fort."

He stressed that it is but logical since the Inner Fort is in Fort Bonifacio and Fort Bonifacio is part of Taguig.

Truly, the BCDA, the Fort Bonifacio Development Corp. (FBDC) and other entities inside the Global City pay taxes in Taguig.

Moreover, Presidents Fidel Ramos and Gloria Macapagal Arroyo have issued pronouncements confirming the fact that Fort Bonifacio is in Taguig.

Taguig pursues cityhood bid

Taguig is still pursuing its campaign to elevate the municipality into a city, which would vastly improve its tax collections and hike its share of internal revenue allotment (IRA) and thus bring to fruition its plan to establish itself as a growth center in Metro Manila.

However, the administration of Mayor Freddie Tinga has to overcome opposition from the usual chorus of detractors.

For this reason, Taguig residents have lamented the oppositors to the cityhood knowing fully well the benefits that would redound to them like enjoying a higher increase of IRA and the right to reclaim some land from Laguna de Bay for its own use.

However, the Supreme Court (SC) lifted the injunction and allowed the plebiscite to push trhough on April 25, 1998.

Nevertheless, irregularities attended the plebiscite, prompting the filing of a petition for a recount which was subsequently dismissed by the Comelec alleging that the poll body has no jurisdiction over the case.

The uproar over the decision was not limited to Taguig but also to the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG), which practically questioned the wisdom of the verdict, calling it "highly untenable."

Former Taguig Rep. and now Dean of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), Dante O. Tinga, other Taguig legal luminaries and the supporters of cityhood joined in filing a petition before the SC questioning the Comelec decision and asking that the same be overturned.

The OSG, through Solicitor General Alfredo L. Benipayo, himself a former Comelec chairman, said the "power to ascertain the true results of the plebiscite is necessarily included in the power to enforce all laws relative to the conduct of the plebiscite."

What Dean Tinga and the intervenors in the case want is simply for the Comelec to check whether widespread fraud was committed during the plebiscite and correct the results by ascertaining the will of the electorate

OSG claimed that the petition is not an electoral protest but simply the revision of plebiscite results through an examination of the ballots. Not the regular courts but the Comelec has the sole jurisdiction over the case since it pertains to a recount and revision of the ballots cast in the plebiscite of April 25, 1998, it added.

SMC beer sales up 12% in 1st quarter

BEER sales of food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp. grew at a double-digit pace for the first three months of the year due mainly to improved distribution and marketing efforts.

San Miguel said its beer unit posted volume sales of 23.5 million cases in the first two months and revenue of P4.8 billion, up by 10 percent and 12 percent, respectively over the previous year's levels.

March volumes are expected to surpass the average for the first two months with sales exceeding P7 billion.

San Miguel attributed the growth to the strengthening of the distribution network and highly focused marketing efforts. Central Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao yielded the highest volume growth.

San Miguel said beer sales were above expectations as demand usually tapers off after the holiday season.

San Miguel has invested heavily in the strengthening of its dealership network nationwide over the past two years.

In 2002, San Miguel generated a 4 percent growth in volumes from 2001, a reversal from volume deficits in previous years.

San Miguel is the country's leading beer manufacturer accounting for more than 90 percent of the market led by its flagship San Miguel Pale Pilsen brand. Other products are San Mig Light, Red Horse, Gold Eagle, Superdry, Blue Ice, Cerveza Negra and the Miller draft beer.

In 2002, SMC posted a net income of P6.63 billion, up 2.8 percent from the previous year's P6.45 billion.

The company said its consolidated net income before restructuring cost was P7.2 billion, or 40 percent higher from end-2001 figure.

POWER PLANT IN NEGROS

PNOC to bid out P1.4-B project

By Ronnel W. Domingo

STATE-OWNED PNOC Energy Development Corp. yesterday said it was inviting foreign firms, including Japanese and European, to build a P1.4-billion power plant in line with the expansion of its Palinpinon geothermal production field in Southern Negros.

In a telephone interview, PNOC-EDC chair Sergio Apostol said the firm had opened this week the pre-qualification of prospective bidders for the 20-megawatt project.

"This (prequalification) would take us about a month and we expect to award the contract to the winning bidder by mid-July," Apostol said.

The contract will cover the construction of the plant and the transmission line, and the development of the steam field.

Apostol said PNOC-EDC was expecting the participation in the bidding of companies from Japan, France, Italy and Germany as well as Australia.

He added that a power plant usually took four years to built, but said this could be shortened to two years for the new Palinpinon plant.

"We expect Palinpinon III to be operational by 2005," Apostol said.

PNOC-EDC's Palinpinon geothermal field currently hosts the National Power Corp.'s 192.5-megawatt power complex, which was commissioned in 1983.

On April 14, Apostol said PNOC-EDC had secured a P1.4-billion financing facility from the Development Bank of the Philippines for the project. The loan will mature in 15 years with an 8-percent interest for the first 10 years and 11 percent for the remaining five years, Apostol explained.

He said the fund would also cover the cost of developing the site as well as the installation of transmission lines to connect the new power plant to the main power grid.

Yasay told to respect independence of court

NAIA IPT 3 general manager Guillermo G. Cunanan yesterday criticized the MIA-Naia Association of Service Operators and its chair Perfecto R. Yasay Jr., for their alleged attempts to influence the Supreme Court.

"He (Yasay) is selectively rehashing misleading information submitted last year to the Senate blue ribbon committee in the hope that the Supreme Court would go the way of the Senate blue ribbon committee report. Why else would he reprint old 'news'?" Cunanan asked.

The Supreme Court has yet to decide on four petitions questioning the validity of the concession contracts between the government and the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. to build and operate Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Cunanan accused Yasay of attempting to influence the Supreme Court to rule against Piatco in these cases.

PRULINK	PRU LIFE U.K.	
VARIABLE LIFE	Current Week Apri 22, 2003	Last Week April 15, 2003
Prulink Bond Fund	1.04853	1.04667
Prulink Managed Fund	1.03476	1.03304

* Note PRULINK Funds were launched last September 18 2002

World Bank cuts growth . . .

From page B1

vice president for East Asia and the Pacific Jemal-ud-din Kassum said.

Kassum noted, however, that while economic growth in the region would likely slow down this year, East Asia still had "fundamental strengths that should enable it to withstand these short-term shocks and grow faster than any other region in the world."

"Like the Iraq crisis, SARS is in principle a temporary shock, although there is a great deal of uncertainty as to how large the SARS crisis will be in the end. Countries with high foreign reserves and a decent fiscal position may well be inclined to consider carefully designed policies that support economic activity during the shock," Kassum said.

Homi Kharas, the bank's chief economist for East Asia and the Pacific region, added that stronger flows of consumer and housing credit have helped underpin stronger household consumption and housing construction in the region.

"SARS may have a severe effect over the short term but it is unlikely to stop the discernible underlying trend toward a gradual strengthening of East Asian domestic demand and activity," Kharas said.

China, the epicenter of the SARS virus, is still expected to grow at robust rates as the country is seen banking on strong domestic demand to hedge against slow growth in the rest of the world. Nevertheless, the World Bank scaled down its gross domestic growth (GDP) forecast for China to 7.2 percent from the earlier expected growth of 7.5 percent.

Based on the World Bank report, the Philippines is forecast to grow this year by 4 percent, slower than the earlier forecast of 4.3 percent. But growth is expected to pick up to 4.5 percent by 2004.

The Philippines and Malaysia were the only Southeast Asian countries downgraded by the bank.

Malaysia is forecast to grow by 4.2 percent this year, down from the earlier expected 5 percent.

On the other hand, Indonesia is projected to grow by 3.3 percent and Thailand by 4.5 percent this year, an upgrade from the bank's earlier forecasts of 3.2 percent and 4 percent, respectively.

In particular, the bank said the Philippines, which exceeded its first-quarter deficit ceiling due to overspending, must work hard to meet fiscal targets this year.

"This is particularly the case given the downside risks to the global economy, exacerbated by the war in Iraq and the spread of the SARS virus, and the uncertain repercussions on the Philippines in terms of exports, oil prices, remittances and access to global capital," the bank said.

S&P . . .

From page B1

of about 117 percent.

Reacting to S&P's action, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho yesterday said the rating agency would have come up with a different view had it sent a team to evaluate the country on the ground.

"We were hoping that S&P will come but unfortunately, because of the SARS concern, they postponed or cancelled the visit. I think their view of the economy might have been different had they been able to come here because they would have seen what is happening on the ground particularly on what the BIR and the BOC (Bureau of Customs) are doing," Camacho told reporters.

In the next few months, however, S&P's observation would weaken amid positive macroeconomic and fiscal developments, he said.

"It is unfortunate that the recent revision of S&P's rating on the Philippines did not consider recent developments, particularly in the improving revenue collections that have been the linchpin of the government's macroeconomic program and in light of the positive developments with the passing of the Iraq crisis," he said.

Despite the downgrade, he said he was pleased with the pace of reforms to increase tax collection efficiency particularly undertaken by the BIR and the BOC.

UNIONBANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
NOTICE TO ALL STOCKHOLDERS

April 22, 2003

For All Stockholders,

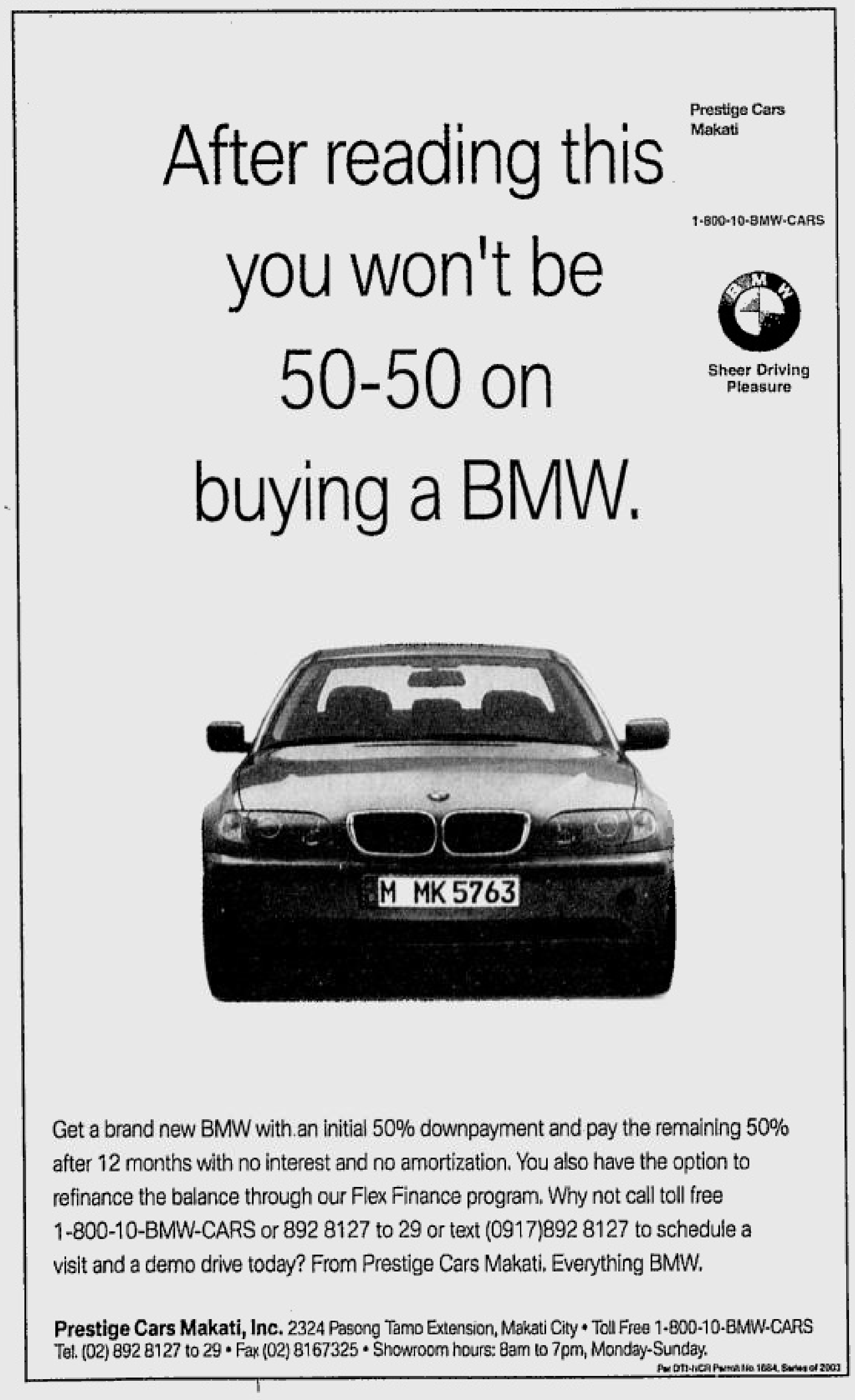
Please be informed that the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) has approved the *fifty centavos (P0.50)* per share cash divivend declaration of UnionBank of the Philippines (UBP) approved by UBP Board on January 24, 2003 which cash dividend is payable from the retained earnings of the Bank as of December 31, 1997.

Accordingly, Record Date for stockholders entitled to such dividends shall be on **May 8, 2003**. Payment date will be on May 30, 2003.

For your information. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) ATTY. FE B. MACALINO
Corporate Secretary



Get a brand new BMW with an initial 50% downpayment and pay the remaining 50% after 12 months with no interest and no amortization. You also have the option to refinance the balance through our Flex Finance program. Why not call toll free 1-800-10-BMW-CARS or 892 8127 to 29 or text (0917)892 8127 to schedule a visit and a demo drive today? From Prestige Cars Makati. Everything BMW.

Prestige Cars Makati, Inc. 2324 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City • Toll Free 1-800-10-BMW-CARS
Tel. (02) 892 8127 to 29 • Fax (02) 8167325 • Showroom hours: 8am to 7pm, Monday-Sunday.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1684, Series of 2003

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

STANDARD INSURANCE CO., INC.
The Insurance Standard

CORPORATE FLEET INSURANCE
From the country's LARGEST Motor Car Insurer

PREMIUM RATING: VERY COMPETITIVE

NATIONWIDE CLAIMS SERVICING: MOST EFFICIENT

Number of Claims Settled for the year 2002:	17,582
Claims Paid for the year 2002:	P 521,971,575
Claims Payable as of 31 Dec. 2002:	P 9,095,068
Widest Full-Service Branches	41
Most Extensive Car-Dealer Tie-ups	226
Casa Repair Service to damaged vehicles	Up to 12 years of age
Presence of Technical Personnel In-charge of Repair Valuation *(Engineers and Auto Mechanics)*	98
Off-office Hours Assistance by Branch Heads and Adjusters	Over 100

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT:
THE MOST COMPUTERIZED IN THE INDUSTRY
(With the Most Advanced Insurance Software)

MAJOR CLIENTS:
SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION
LA TONDEÑA DISTILLERIES, INC.
COSMOS BOTTLERS, INC.
SMART COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
COCA-COLA BOTTLERS CO., INC.
PUREFOODS CORPORATION
METRO BOTTLERS, INC.
CAL ENERGY INTERNATIONAL INC.

ADD-ONS:
Free Personal Accident Coverage
Free Anti-theft Car Lock (Metro Manila)
Free 24-Hour Towing Service (Metro Manila)

QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS: ISO 9002 CERTIFIED

STANDARD INSURANCE PAID-UP CAPITAL:
P500,000,000

STANDARD INSURANCE BRANCHES IN NORTHERN LUZON: BAGUIO, PANGASINAN, LAOAG, LA UNION, TARLAC; CAGAYAN VALLEY: TUGUEGARAO, SANTIAGO; CENTRAL LUZON: CABANATUAN, MALOLOS, OLONGAPO, PAMPANGA, METRO MANILA: CALOOCAN, HEAD OFFICE, MAKATI, ORTIGAS, AYALA, WEST AVENUE, SOUTHERN LUZON: CAVITE, BATANGAS, LUCENA, PALAWAN, SAN PABLO LAGUNA, BICOL REGION: LEGASPI, NAGA, EASTERN VISAYAS: CEBU, ORMOC, DUMAGUETE, WESTERN VISAYAS REGION: ILOILO, BACOLOD, ROXAS, KALIBO, ANTIQUE, NORTHERN MINDANAO REGION BUTUAN, CAGAYAN DE ORO, ILIGAN, SURIGAO, SOUTHERN MINDANAO REGION DAVAO, GENERAL SANTOS, PAGADIAN, TAGUM, ZAMBOANGA

Tel Nos. Head Office - (02)400-7777 Corporate Marketing Unit - (02)400-1478
Website: http//:www.standard-insurance.com Email: corporatemarketinga standard-insurance.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008 11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

We DESIGN & CONSTRUCT
533-74-85 • 0920-6148859

COMPUTER REPAIR

ANY COMPUTER REPAIRS N SALES TEYACOM 6515186

COSMETOLOGY

AROMATHERAPY & SPA
WORKSHOP / SESSION
MAY 3 SAT 1-5 PM
8956031 L2011 / 8971832

HEALTH/FITNESS

Weight Less
Call 521-9683 / 0917-4770408

MASSAGE

00000H BOYZ 3233269

746-5532 HotBodies M'touch

Akhin Thai Mla 8347357 Cbu 2532597 Bguio 448-7184

BOYS TOUCH CALL 889-1490

H'some Athletes • 833-7361

Human Touch Male Masseurs 09205835279 4143997 24 Hrs.

HUNKS TOUCH 0920-5182552

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8518650 ; 0920-6274243

JV MALE MASSUERS 24hrs 09202387878 ;7130279

MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

Masseur • Txt 0916-4636869

Swedish Msge 0919-4743278

REFLEXOLOGY

BLUE PALM • 713-6553

D'Millenium M/F 9347633

Edward 7269285 09193365411

FEELS GOOD 4127758

H-H-MS MALE 7314018

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

"THE TSUBOS"
T.Morato Ave.QC-4140933

TUTORIAL LESSONS

BASIC SPANISH COURSE 5271590

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Direct Maid Cook Yaya 7572089

IDEAL MAIDS YAYA 732-6750

BEST MAIDS 772-4213

Good-Maid-Yaya-Cook 853-3504

Good Maid Yaya Mwife 4214652

Good Maid Yaya Boy 7570579

Good Shepherd Emp 9287096

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

Maid 1st time Mla. 445-0899

MAIDS 9124701•9124706

PACIFIC: MAIDS, ETC SINCE 1948 T:7312672

PROVINCIAL ALL AROUND
MAIDS
Call Joy 8712372•8722792

AVAILABLE MAID 7329642

Provincial or City MAID•BOY 9268984/4331431/2590869

Prov'l Trusted Maids Yaya CALL: 873-7055 • 873-7057

ANGEL'S HANDS
w/ NBI&BI 4213253 / 4213874

TRUSTED QUALITY MAIDS W/ NBI & BI 421-3828

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

WELL TRAINED MAIDS W/ NBI, REF. 9129443/4378347

YA' BOY M'DWIFE COOK MAID GARDINER D'VER 5220084/5221429

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

L-BAHAY 8363742/5447599

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

LIPAT BAHAY 535-2064

LIPAT BAHAY 7312409

LIPAT BAHAY Tel. 805-3362

LIPATBAHAY
7433225 / 0916-6004637

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

MANILA

3Big Room nrDLSU 8992148

PASIG

418sqm 5Dr 2Sty Apt. frnt College T-6414589, 09175372340

6.4Has Pasig 10 mins. to Ortigas T-6414589, 09175372340

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

READY FOR OCCUPANCY
LAS PINAS OR BACOOR
Only P 5,000 to reserve
2-3 BRS, 2 storey w/garage
873-4074 / 873-5949

MAKATI

7.5M SAV 5BR 890 0789

MANILA

NR LA SALLE
BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.460M 8903461 loc 34

MARIKINA

Gnhts. new4br 2.2M 9487112

PASIG

★ Kawilihan ★ Duplex
P5.5M like BNew 671-4421

QUEZON CITY

ACROPOLIS 300;414SQM
Rush P9M only 6337601-03

★St. Ignatius Vill,cor lot 6br 4tb P14M 09192221766

•L300m² HAYEVILLE Proj.6 QC
•L520m² 6BR w/spool Proj6
•L600m² 3sty Malakas St.QC
•L390 Apo St. SMHts 9298376

ORTIGAS 85 107 150 300m²
P250-350/m² 6337601-03

NR GRACE CHRISTIAN COLL
3BR 1DEN 2-6 CAR GRGE
7157091 / 0918-4491555

NEW MLA 3BR 2CAR GRGE 5.5M 7157091/09184491555

RIZAL

CAINTA 131sqm 1.3M 8979541

LA 346 FA 200 3BR Nr Lores 2Park Call 0917-5216338

NR ORTIGAS AVE EXT
ALG RIDGMONT AVE 180M²
RIDGMONT EXECUTIVE VIL
P6T/M² 9488240 / 9334971

Rush Sale Robinson Homes Antipolo LA140M² FA65M² Fely 6391573 • 0919-2769617

Vermont Park Antipolo 239m² 2sty 5BR w/ bathtub attic 2aircon L340 tel grge P5M 7801821 0919-5764056 welcome agents

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

OTHER AREAS

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

OTHER AREAS

CAINTA TOWNHOUSE
near EVER-Gotesco Cainta
P600T S/P, ONLY P180T D/P
P8,750/mo. for 15 years
531-1384/0390 • (0920) 904-9632
www.guevent.com/homes

SACRIFICE SALE!
Pacific Plaza, Fort Bonifacio, North Tower
298 sqm, Furnished or bare, w/ 3 parking.
Goldland Plaza, Greenhills,
214 sqm w/ 1 parking.
Wackwack Twin Towers,
86.07 sqm w/ 1 parking.
Bernice 0916-6823623/373-1188 (ofc hrs)
Henry 0917-8385151

HOUSE & LOT

Why Rent??? Buy Now!!! Ready for Occupancy

RSG Gueventhomes
Near SM-Bacoor
D/P 12 months to pay
Inhouse; Pag-ibig;GSIS;
SSS or Provident
Tels. 873-5508 • 873-5509
Cel.: (0918) 904-8230
BROKERS/AGENTS WELCOME
www.guevent.com/homes

LAGUNA

Laguna Bel Air-No down ! 3/4Br 35%disct T896-0528

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.6M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 3-5BR 15min Fr Mkti 0917-8169849

MANILA

Nr UST P3.6M 136FA 6453731

MANDALUYONG

H-LANDS 2.3M BARGAIN 58.23M² NEW RUSH RFO 578-0030

•PIONEER HILANDS Off/Rsdl Rent 2 Own, 5-10% Down 2-3BR, Penthouse, Amenities P3.4-6M; P19M T0916-8594925

QUEZON CITY

2BR CONDO CUBAO 9120679

Cubao P1.4M 10%DP 9132224

Eastwood City Libis 1-3 BR Studio Call 0917-5218338

RESD'L CONDO IN EASTWOOD CITY LIBIS 0917-5218338

RIZAL

AYALA-ANTIPOLO
P1.6-7M 2-5BR 10%DP P16T/mo LA150-260SQM nr. La Salle/ Assumption • 0918-9355737

SAN JUAN

NEAR ICA & XAVIER
2/3BR 1/2GRGE 2.5M-7M
ONLY 7157091/09184491555

LOT

MALABON

1413sqm corner T8437027 For warehouse P20T/sqm

QUEZON CITY

• GreenMdws 800m² 4121825 •

CORINTHIAN GARDEN
LA740m² @ P28T ONLY
7157091 / 09184491555

COMML/RESDL

VARIED AREAS

PRIME LOTS
MANILA
Malate P. Ocampo (Vito Cruz) 909 sqm.
PASAY CITY
Cuneta Ave. 2,810 sqm Rear Papa Frontage 28M
QUEZON CITY
Libis E. Rodriguez Ave (C-5)
Three (3) Adjacent Lots 33,162 sqm.;
Commonwealth Ave. 4,152 sqm.
PASIG CITY
Ortigas Ave Ext Cor Lot 15,000 sqm.
MANDALUYONG
Ortigas Center San Miguel Ave.
Corner Lot 10,509 sqm.
TAGAYTAY
National Highway Two (2)
Adjacent Lots 37,489 sqm.
Between Rotonda/Lourdes Church
BATANGAS
Nasugbu Alvarez St., Farm 20,080 sqm Near Public Market; Lian
Matabungkay Beach Resort 3,604 sqm.
CAVITE
Dasmariñas Aguinaldo Hi-way
Lot 5,549 sqm Frontage 20M;
Imus Aguinaldo Hi-way
Lot 36,000 sqm Frontage 103M.
LAGUNA
Cabuyao National Hi-way
84,092 sqm w/ Factory
Warehouse Bldgs GFA 31,000 sqm.
CAMARINES SUR
Naga City Concepcion Grande
National Hi-way 5,457 sqm
Frontage 40M
NEGROS ORIENTAL
Dumaguete City Rizal Blvd.
913 sqm Frontage 40M
ZITRO REAL ESTATE
Makati tels: 818-2781/751-5472
Cebu tel: (032) 232-3381

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

1.3HA RICEFIELD CANAMAN CAM.SUR 6460768 PERLA

★ZAMBALES Mango Farm 7,9,10,30,66has 09192221766

ZAMBALES alg hway 3M 50+mango titled 09192221766

RESORT

Pansol Hot Spring priv 7870543

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

Bel Air Soho, 8-10T/mo Liza M/0920 7578922

MANILA

MARBELLA I STUD 8220354

PASAY

BEST IN PASAY
DOWN Pay in 2-Years
MONTHLY P5T
G'WELL 5517902 / 8337093

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

ERA REAL ESTATE
LEASE OR SALE
CONDO/TOWNHOUSE
FOR AS LOW AS 15T A MONTH
GREENHILLS/MANDALUYONG
- Governor's Place
- Wack Wack condo
- Gilmore Heights
- San Francisco Gardens

BOHOL AVE./ CAPITOL HILLS, Q.C.
- El Jardin del Presidente
- Golf Hill Terraces

FOR AS LOW AS 25T A MONTH
MAKATI CBD, SALCEDO
- Salcedo Park
- Manhattan Square
- One Lafayette Square
- Two Lafayette Square

OFFICE SPACE
MAKATI CBD, SALCEDO
- Petron MegaPlaza
- The World Centre
- Paseo Center
- Burgundy Corporate Center
- Citibank Tower
- PhilAXA Tower
- 139 Corporate Center
- Cityland Herrera Tower

ORTIGAS CBD, PASIG
- Richmonde Plaza
- Tektite Tower

BETH 0917-8479276
867-8913 to 17
www.ERAphilippines.com
A Global Network with Over 3,000 Offices Worldwide

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

LAS PINAS

2BR Up & Down Veraville Classic 09173426233 Myrna

MANILA

1BR NR P.GIL ST. 5634007 5642878

APT 2BR nr UST 7311002

MANDALUYONG

Wack' Royal Mansion
1BR FF Aircon Prkg Cable
Call Philip Tan • 813-2621

MARIKINA

Nr Ateneo Montevista studio type 8T w/garage 681-9583

QUEZON CITY

3BR 13 Ave. Cubao 718-0689

Cubao Std Lady 3.5 9124428

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

Near Lipa City Mataasnakahoy boundary with ofc., cr, kitchen & garage good for 7 delivery vans Tel # (043)461-0550 Alma (0920)539-3596 Jojo

BEDSPACE

M/F prof 1,500 Pasay 5500254

nrDLaSalle Taft 8992148

BUSINESS RENTAL

Off. Condo 60sqm unfurn MedPlazaOrtigas P15T/mo w/tel, AC, CR, parking Call GIGI 825-2546/2466 EMAIL: knll@info.com.ph

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

Bnew Condo near Mkt Med 1, 2, 3br PH 0918-3483808

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

96Civic VTi Red P310N 8054211

MITSUBISHI

97EL LNEW 10WN 6820150

TOYOTA

COROLLA XL '97
A1 COND., MAGS, TINT P240T Neg. • 0919-2750100 RUSH

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Land Cruiser Pajero Surf Pajero Safari Terrano Trooper Delica Hi-Town Ace T-In ok txpd w/warranty 8336644

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

1T VAN 7837228

A.TOYCO UDRIVE W/ DRIVER CARS/VANS/RENTAL 8006595

HIACE VAN RENT T7806589

SELFDRIVE W/DRIVER CARS VANS REVO COASTER BUS 8908667 • 8908668 • 8908669

L300 T7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917 (Roger)

MARIAN 8969956 CARS CSTER VANS BRDAL

MB100 VANS 7415897

REVO w/driver 9272821

Van 0917-6626993 • 6421840

VAN RENTAL T941-2546

CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5 % EasyCarLoan 4000166 -67

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1HR FastCarLoan 7125202

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490

2% w/oTaking Car 8966633/30

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT
ELITE PIANO CENTER
Almost New:TERMS-7213124

PETS

Dog Trainer 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

Golden Ret/Boomer P12TM, 17TF 7210640/09208183573

WANTED TO BUY

B/SELL EDUCL PLAN 8061574

DEFECT TV/A'CON 7325865

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
High Appraisal / Fast Cash
Repair / Polish Any watch
MANILA WATCH (Hyatt)
Tel. 804-0484 • 834-2886
INTL. WATCH (Greenhills)
Tel.724-4374 • 0917-6984292

WE BUY
GOLD
HIGHEST PRICE
CALL: 8390004
8390060

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

DRIVER W/EXP 743-3225

FEMALE

BEAUTY CONSULTANT 527-6418

MALE/FEMALE

Beautician, Dressmaker, Domestic Helper, Male Gym Instructor 843-2596

BS RAD TECH-CT SCAN OJT FEM 2640 RIZAL AVE STA CRUZ TEL 7111967 7126452

Direct hire Ofc Personnel 18-45 Coll grad/level w/ w/o exp #4370454 Ms. Shie

DIRECT HIRING OFC STAFF M/F 18-45 COL GRAD/LEVEL W/ W/O EXP 9134470 RUBY

FREE CareGiverTraining 521-27-73 589-99-58

HRD STF 09193808007 RIO

Legal Researcher Salary & Commission 7852485

Mktg Asst 09192535623 GLENDA

OFC / MKTG STAFF
URGENT!18-45 w/w/o exp start asap! Coll lvl/grad 8967636 LIL

Ofc Staff 09206274118 - Sam

SALES AGENTS
T633-1073

Study & Work Abroad Fly Now Pay Later 751-5508/09

CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
wishes to announce its
INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY & BID
on the following:

1. **5-10 years lease of the Folk Arts Theater** (10,000 sq.m.), CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City
2. **5 years lease of Trellis Area- West (292 sq.m.)** at the Liwasang ASEAN, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City
3. **5 years lease of Trellis Area- East (292 sq.m.)** at the Liwasang ASEAN, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

You may secure checklist of requirements from Mr. Ed Duque, Office of the Vice President, Cultural Center of the Philippines, CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City Tel. Nos. 832-3680 or 832-1125 loc. 1101. Deadline for inquiry is on Tuesday, May 6, 2003 until 5:00 p.m.

The CCP reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part thereof without offering any reason, waive any defects contained therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the government, and the right to confiscate the bid bond and/or pursue appropriate legal action should the winning bidder refuse to accept the award.

Further, the CCP assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that they may incur in participating to the undertaking nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) SID HILDAWA
Chairman, CCPBAC

(PDI--Apr. 25 & 27, 2003)

LEARN AND BE IN BUSINESS!!!
Small Capital, Easy to Do, Big Demand

Candle Making Seminar – May 4, 2003 (Sunday)
- Learn to make different candle varieties: scented, molded, gel (transparent), and other decorative types including packaging.

Meat and Fish Processing Seminar – May 18, 2003 (Sunday)
- Learn to make tocino, skinless longanisa, chicken nuggets, morkon, low cost hamburger, tinapa, kikiam, fish siomai, fish balls and dumplings.

Soap Making Seminar – May 25, 2003 (Sunday)
- Learn to make various herbal soaps including papaya. powdered detergent, liquid hand, body and dishwashing soaps and its packaging.

Don't waste time, enroll now and be in business soon!! Call Geraldine: 7247990, 7252936 & 7233132

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

B/SELL FULLY PD EDUC PLAN 780-0106 / 0920-4188588

Earn & Travel 0917-8458644

Earn Fr. Home & Travel 8376068

•TRVL N WORK FR HOME• 8531008 0917-8901851 travelandworkfromhome.com

Entrepreneurs Be Part of a GLOBAL CO. Start Now! 259-7876 • 0918-9369070

HK TRADE FINANCER, DETAILS TO-222888@MAIL.COM

Internet Cards TRI-ISYS 35% Blast39% Pacific40% 255-2608

PART-TIME BUSINESS 0918-9441238

Teen Adultwear 09167940002

EARN & TRAVEL
724-6210 • 0916-9368917

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late LORETO P. VERAN has been extra-judicially settled among his heirs on February 17, 2003 as per Doc. No. 207, Page No. 42, Book No. 1, Series of 2003, before Atty. Jose V. Mejia, Notary Public for Makati City.
(PDI-April 25, May 2 & 9, 2003)

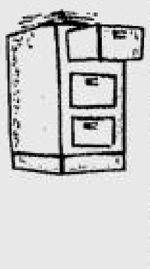
ANNOUNCEMENT

CAREGIVER TRNG 5271590

SAHAJA YOGA
Free Meditation Course
Learn an ancient technique of meditation. It's easy, natural & gives amazing results spontaneously! Discover how to relax your mind & relieve yourself of daily stress. Energize positive energy to manage your personal & professional life effectively. Introductory lecture on April 26 (5-7pm) followed by a six week course every Saturday at Filipinas Library, Makati Ave. (opposite The Peninsula Mla). For more details call us at 810-6144/825-3938 or visit us @ www.sahajayoga.org

Drop your resumés NOW!

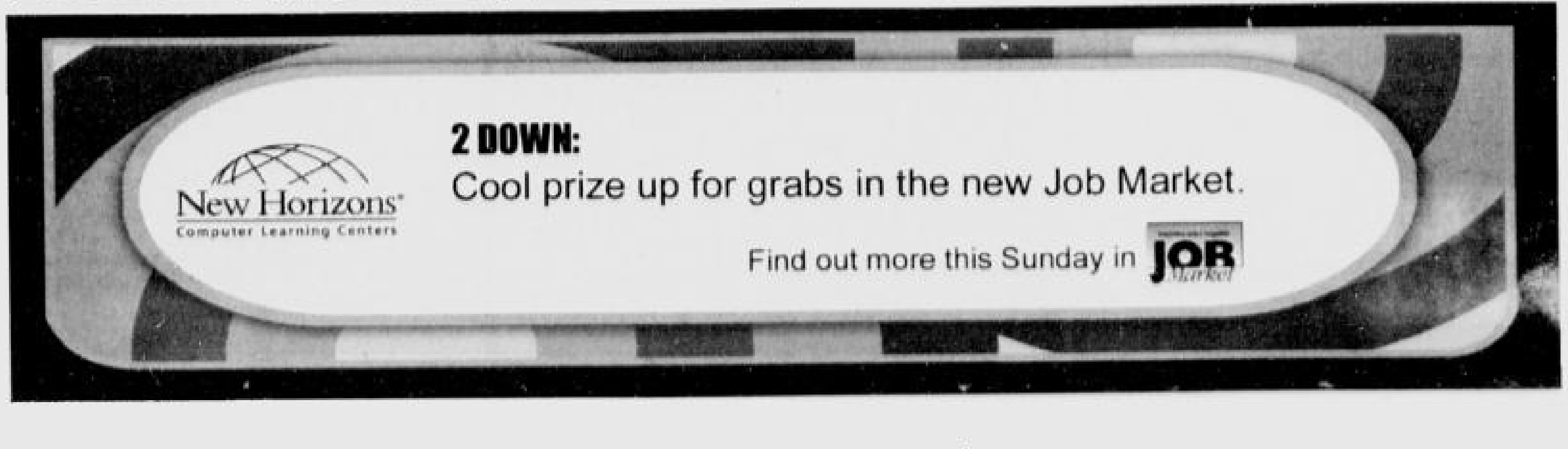
Visit any of the Inquirer Classified Ads branch and drop your resumés in our new



Resumé Box

We gather your resumés and forward them to companies with employment needs.

JOB MARKET
Where You Find the Best


New Horizons
Computer Learning Centers
2 DOWN:
Cool prize up for grabs in the new Job Market.
Find out more this Sunday in JOB Market

FOR PEACE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Gov't OKs 13 Mindanao projects worth P12.5B

By Michelle V. Remo

THE GOVERNMENT has approved the implementation of P12.5 billion worth of projects in war-torn Mindanao.

The National Economic and Development Authority said the World Bank, Japan Bank for International Cooperation and other bilateral agencies have committed to bankroll some 13 projects aimed at boosting economic activity in the region.

These projects include the second phase of the Mindanao Container Terminal Project ($64.55 million), road projects in Basilan, Cotobato and Lake Lanao ($52.24 million) and the ARMM Social Fund for Peace and Development ($44.6 million).

Mindanao's economic development has lagged behind other regions due to frequent clashes between the military and Muslim rebels that have driven away foreign and local investments.

The Investment Coordination Committee has approved the projects after government representatives and the donors agreed on a blueprint to develop Mindanao.

Augusto Santos, deputy director general for regional development, said the strategy was to invest in social development and peace building programs alongside infrastructure projects.

The ambitious goals include the resumption of peace talks between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, modernization of the agriculture and the fisheries sector, development of Mindanao as a gateway to East Asean Growth Area and development of Davao as a tourism hub.

The other projects under the program include: Emergency Assistance for Returnees from Sabah ($400,000); Rural Development Pilot Project for Muslim Mindanao Peace Promotion ($6.5 million); Environmental Protection in Support to Sustainable Livelihood Component in Lake Lanao ($74,000); Upgrading of Medical Equipment for Government Hospitals ($16.14 million); Philippine Ports Development Project ($13.04 million); Central Mindanao Road Project ($26.79 million); Agrarian Reform Community Support Project ($22.4 million) and Poverty Alleviation and Conflict Management in Conflict Areas ($500,000).

Santos added that part of the funds would also go to agriculture support facilities such as irrigation networks to harness Mindanao's vast potential as a food basket.

Major irrigation projects include the Malitubog–Maridagao (Malmar) project, Lower Agusan Development Project and the Southern Philippines Irrigation Sector Project (SPISP).

Santos added that the government has assured the donors of its commitment to push these projects ahead.

"While we may be experiencing some setbacks in the peace process, government is determined to exert all efforts to put back on track the gains that we have so far achieved," Santos said.

"I believe that our efforts toward this end will have far reaching effects not only for the people of Mindanao, but for other regions as well," he added.

Swine industry needs help

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

COMMENTARY

THE COUNTRY'S largest swine industry organization, the National Federation of Hog Farmers Inc. (NFHFI) headed by Nemesio Co and Albert Lim, is holding its annual convention today in Cebu. Why does this matter to us? Because swine is critical to our economy. And if we are not vigilant, we can be in deep trouble once more.

The swine industry produces P86.7 billion worth of products annually. It directly employs 748,000 workers, with 3.8 million dependent family members. Another 3.5 million workers and their families rely indirectly on it. These include corn farmers, copra producers, feed millers, and related haulers and distributors.

In 2002, the industry contributed 14.0 percent to total agricultural output. This was lower than palay's contribution of 18.8 percent but higher than that of chicken's 10.8 percent, corn's 4.6 percent, eggs' 2.7 percent and cattle's 2.3 percent.

Last year, the swine industry had its most difficult period in decades. Farm gate prices usually decrease from its annual peak by only P5 to P10 per kilo. In 2002, prices dropped by as much as P20. This resulted in business closures, lost jobs and severe financial dislocations.

At its lowest, farm gate prices ranged from P52 to P57, far below the industry's peak price of P76 the previous year. Unfortunately, the bulk of this problem was borne by the small backyard raisers, who constitute 76 percent of the industry. These troubles are attributed to two main factors: unabated smuggling and the massive illegal entry of Indian "carabeef" into the wet markets.

Smuggling

Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, head of the Anti Smuggling Task Force created in December 2002, implemented a proposal for the Department of Agriculture (DA) Quarantine Personnel to inspect all imported agriculture products prior to release. In Metro Manila, all container reefer vans are now opened for inspections that are witnessed by representatives from the Bureau of Customs, the DA, Presidential Security Guard, and the farmers/fisherfolk groups. According to General Esperon, at the start of this implementation, 40 out of 100 vans contained smuggled goods.

This violation rate was reduced quickly, aided by new measures implemented by Customs Commissioner Antonio Bernardo with the support of Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo. These measures include a no-redemption/no-auction policy and the filing of criminal charges against alleged smugglers.

From Jan. 1 to Feb. 9 this year, the initial 40 percent violation rate dropped to 16 percent, when 106 out of 659 inspected vans were caught smuggling. This improved further to a 0.4-percent violation rate in the period Feb. 10-March 28 when only seven out of 1,628 inspected vans were apprehended.

Today, farm gate hog prices are nearing their normal levels. However, some of the smuggled goods found their way to ports outside Metro Manila, where the 100-percent inspection procedure has yet to be implemented. Despite an issued order on this, authorized NFHFI representatives in Batangas, Cebu, Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro and General Santos report that they have not seen its implementation. Bernardo may take action on this at the convention to further improve the very commendable work he has already done in curbing smuggling.

Indian 'carabeef'

The entry of Indian "carabeef" into the local market also caused difficulties. Priced at P85 to P90 per kilo, it is cheaper compared to pork which is sold at P110 per kilo.

The DA has a memorandum order prohibiting the sale of Indian "carabeef" in the wet markets mainly because India has one of the largest Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreaks in the world as reported by the Office Internationale des Epizoties (OIE). Because of this, the United States, Japan and other European countries do not allow "carabeef" importation. The Philippines, however, allows the importation of "carabeef" only by processing plants with FMD-related safety measures. The control comes from the issuance of import permits for limited volumes by the DA to the processing plants. When the volume allowed exceeds the plant requirement, the excess goes to the wet markets.

From January to April in 2002, 18.5 million kilos of "carabeef" were imported. This is 61 percent more than the 11.4 million kilos imported during the same period in 2000. For every million kilos that go to the wet market, 20,500 hogs are displaced from local production. Assuming a 5-percent increase in the yearly demand of the processing plants and the usual six hogs raised per backyard raiser, last year's volume of "carabeef" importation means about 20,000 farmers were displaced during the period.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has long been providing plant requirement information to the private sector for industries such as cement and garments. At the convention today, hog raisers will restate their request for similar information from the DA as a necessary safety measure for their industry. A prolonged withholding of this vital information may result in the Alyansa Agrikultura, a coalition of one million farmers and fisherfolk, supporting a food supply boycott that the NFHFI may lead.

Another matter to be resolved at the convention is the designation of one or more full -time personnel from the industry to report illegal "carabeef" sales in specific wet markets. They can work with the DA officials, instead of totally relying on them, for the enforcement of the law in these markets. This is the same system the Cordillera vegetable growers used with great success in preventing smuggled vegetables from entering the wet markets.

Conclusion

Some conventions can be all talk and no action. It is hoped that the NFHFI convention that starts today will result in action that will avoid the pitfalls that the industry suffered last year. With the defensive position in place, the hog raisers, government personnel and consumers can implement more proactive measures to help this industry grow, thus benefiting the 4.4 million direct and indirect workers depending on it.

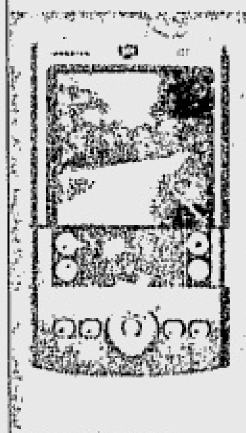
(The author is chair of Agriwatch, a private sector initiative and former undersecretary of the Departments of Agriculture and Trade and Industry. For inquiries or suggestions, e-mail agriwatchphil@yahoo.com or telefax 02-8516635.)

TUNGSTEN | T

FREE PhP 2,000 Voucher*

Exp Card
avel Charg
PhP 22,500 Suggested Retail Price
Leather Case

TO GET ALL YOU NEED- AND MORE



Cool Palm™ accessories make sure you get even more out of your Palm™ Tungsten™ T handheld! Receive an accessory voucher* worth PhP 2,000 with every purchase of a Palm™ Tungsten™ T from March 24 to May 31, 2003. With so many great accessories to choose from, hurry and cash in on this limited time promotion only!

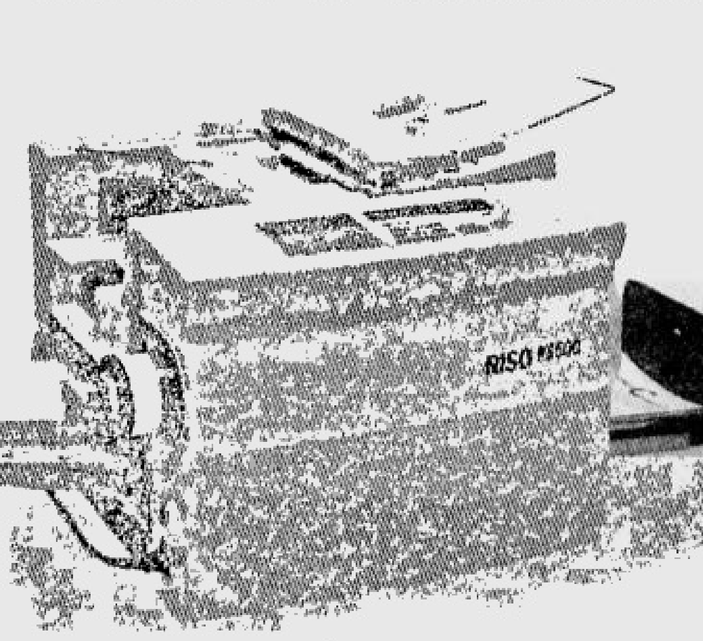
Expansion Cards: 32MB Card • 64MB Card Plus • 128MB Card Plus • Backup Card • Travel Card WW Cities • Games Card: Rayman • Games Card: PopCap
Cases: Slim LeatherCase • Sleeve Case • Hard Case
Others: USB Recharging HotSync Cable • Ultra Thin Keyboard • Tungsten™ T Air Travel Kit • Modem Connectivity Kit • Essential Kit

Ingenious sliding design • High-resolution color display (320x320) • Built-in Bluetooth • Voice recorder • Palm OS 5.0 • Powerful ARM Processor • Dual Expansion

*Terms and conditions apply. See promotional flyers for details.

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR: MICROWAREHOUSE, INC.
PHILIPPINE DEALERS
Nationwide: Electroworld Office Systems • Metro Manila: Ambassador Appliance •ARX Computer •Columbia Computer Center •CompLink Marketing •Dataview •Dynamic PC Ultra •E-Hub •Games and Gadgets •Micronation Computer Center •Mobile 1 •NT Computer Mart •PC Express •Power MAC •Premium Logic •Radio Shack •Silicon Valley •True Value Inc •Villman Computer Systems, Inc •Xalto Mobile Cabanatuan and Olongapo: Villman Computer Systems Inc Tarlac: Benarson Enterprises •Tarlac PC Savers Cebu: AVID Sales •Lanton Mktg •Ng Khai •Silicon Valley Computer Center •Thinking Tools Dumaguete: DG Tech Business Computer Systems Cagayan de Oro: Dataworld Computer Iloilo: Delta Merchandising Davao: Columbia Computer Center •DC Tech •Silicon Valley •Thinking Tools
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0607 Series of 2003

"BYE, BYE MIMEO!"



RISO KS500

Makes Mimeographing Obsolete!

COPYLANDIA
OFFICE SYSTEMS CORPORATION
Your Partner in Instant Printing!

RISO
Instant Printing Machines

With the widest network of branches to serve you.

METRO MANILA
Call 7476-888
Main Office/Showroom:
COPYLANDIA CORPORATE CENTER
718 Bumatay Street
(near City Hall) Mandaluyong City

LUZON		VISAYAS		MINDANAO	
Angeles	(045) 322-1707	Bacolod	(034) 435-0193	Butuan	(085) 342-5321
Baguio	(0917) 845-0652	Cebu	(032) 232-4520	Cagayan De Oro	(088) 857-4272
Dagupan	(075) 515-3306	Dumaguete	(035) 225-4759	Davao	(082) 224-0793
Lipa	(043) 757-0235	Iloilo	(033) 320-7488	Iligan	(063) 221-3713
Los Baños	(049) 536-5458	Tacloban	(053) 321-7611	Zamboanga	(062) 991-2446
Naga	(054) 473-4936	Tagbilaran	(038) 411-2396		

HK SHARES LOWEST IN MORE THAN 4 YRS

SARS hits Asian shares, but US results lift Tokyo

SINGAPORE—Worries about the SARS virus hit most Asian stock markets on Thursday, sending Hong Kong shares to their lowest levels in more than four years and wiping four percent off Taiwan stocks.

But encouraging results from big US companies helped Tokyo shares advance. The euro hit a four-year high against the yen and the dollar held steady.

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd was among the worst-hit Hong Kong stocks, dropping 4.5 percent after it said it may cut its dividend next month as the SARS outbreak ravaged its business.

The benchmark Hang Seng Index of blue-chip stocks reached a new four-and-a-half-year low, falling 1.1 percent to 8,424.33.

"If the market falls below 8,400 points then that signals a total loss of confidence," said Y.K. Chan, investment strategist at VC CEF Brokerage.

International debt-rating agency Fitch Ratings lowered its outlook on Hong Kong's foreign and local currency ratings to negative from stable because of the economic impact of SARS.

The World Bank cut its forecast for East Asian growth to five percent from 5.5 percent, citing SARS, the Iraq war and other external shocks. But it said the adverse effects of the deadly virus should be relatively short.

Taiwan stocks slid more than four percent as the spread of the virus in Taiwan and China unnerved investors.

"Investors now fear the SARS virus could have a worse-than-expected blow to the economy, intensifying worries over the second-quarter corporate outlook," said Fubon Securities research manager Norman Lee.

Shares fell in China, the epicentre of the virus, as institutional investors began to flee the market.

Shanghai's B share index fell 1.9 percent, taking its loss this week to 6.6 percent.

Similar worries hit Singapore shares, which lost 1.7 percent.

The Seoul market wiped out early gains and turned 1.6 percent lower, pulled down by falls in steel giant POSCO on concerns about falling demand from China, the world's biggest steel market.

Only Tokyo shares showed significant gains.

Solid profits from telco AT&T Corp and other US firms boosted Japanese exporters such as Canon Inc. ahead of a key earnings announcement from Sony Corp.

After the market closed, Sony reported results that fell far short of targets as worries over the Iraq war and other dampers on demand offset the performance of hot games and films.

The Nikkei average ended 0.8 percent higher at 7,854.57.

"The results make it look like the US is recovering better than expected, and not just for the first quarter, but from the second quarter on as well," said Muneyuki Tsuji, fund manager at Japan Investment Trust Management.

Australian shares were little changed.

Results and promising forecasts from AT&T and web auctioneer eBay Inc pushed up New York's broad Standard & Poor's 500 index by 0.84 percent on Wednesday. The narrow Dow Jones Industrial Average was 0.36 percent higher.

The dollar was initially supported by an interest rate cut in New Zealand, one of the countries whose favorable yields have been drawing investors away from the US currency in recent days.

But the dollar's attempts at rising met tough resistance and in afternoon Tokyo trade it dropped to 119.80 yen from its New York close of 120.40.

The Japanese hunt for higher yields pushed the euro to a new four-year high against the yen at 132.23. The euro also gained against the dollar, trading near $1.1025 in late Tokyo sales.

Oil steadied ahead of an OPEC producers meeting on Thursday after falling $1.34 per barrel in New York. U.S. light crude for June delivery stood at $26.73, up eight cents from its New York close. *Reuters*

Japan activity slows in Feb.

TOKYO—A key measure of Japan's economic activity fell in February, underscoring the fragility of the economy at a time when export markets seem to be shrinking, and a central bank board member warned deflation would not end soon.

The all-industries index, seen as a proxy for gross domestic product (GDP), fell 0.8 percent in February from January, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry said on Thursday.

One of its core components, the tertiary sector index, mainly covering the services industry, also fell 0.8 percent.

Bank of Japan Policy Board member Kazuo Ueda said he did not see Japan overcoming deflation any time soon, and warned that a further fall in prices could trigger a vicious cycle in an already weak economy.

"I do not see the (annual) rate of deflation turning to zero any time in the near future," he said in a speech to business leaders in Nara, western Japan.

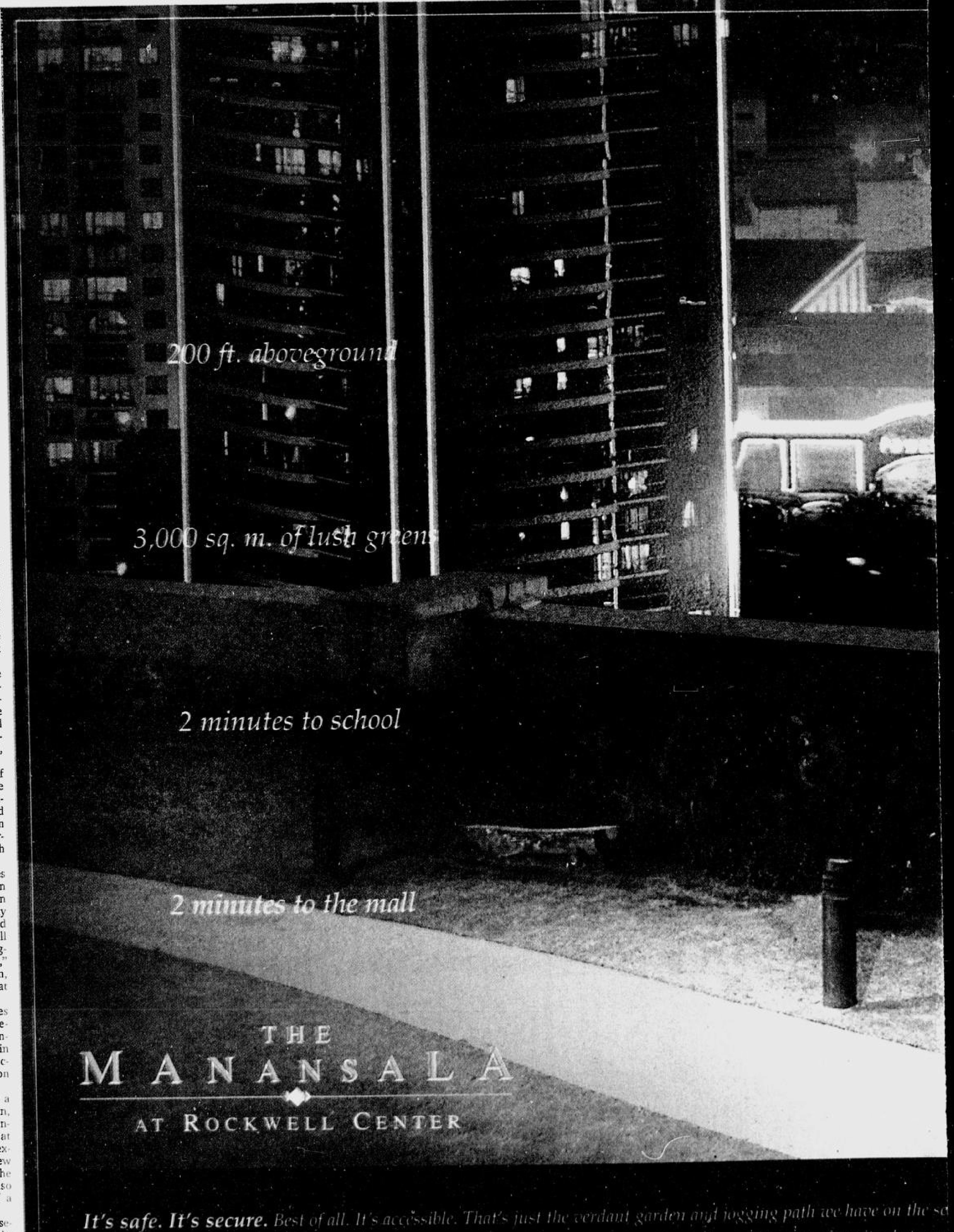
A Reuters poll of 17 economists on the economic activity indices last week had produced median forecasts of 0.6 percent declines for both of them.

"The all-industries fell slightly less than our forecast, but on the whole it is clearly a weak figure and suggests that overall the economy is struggling at this stage," said Peter Morgan, chief economist at HSBC.

The all-industries index is a wide-ranging gauge including activity in industrial production, construction and services.

The figures are a cause for concern, pointing to a continuing slowdown at home just as exports, one of the few bright spots in the economy, are also showing signs of a slowdown.

Kazuaki Hasegawa, current statistics division director at the ministry, said relatively strong figures for January were an exception, and economic activity had been waning since late last year. *Reuters*



It's safe. It's secure. *Best of all. It's accessible. That's just the verdant garden and jogging path we have on the se*
throw away. The Skybridge connecting Manansala II to the mall means a mere 2-minute stroll to your favorite shops an
And more than 80% of our units have been sold. Come have a look, yours is just waiting for you. **Reserve now. Plans**

Greenspan agrees to stay on as US Fed chief

WASHINGTON—US Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan agreed on Wednesday to accept a fifth term as head of the world's mightiest central bank, putting him on course to become the longest-serving Fed chief ever.

The 77-year-old Greenspan clarified his plans a day after President George W. Bush publicly backed his reappointment, ending any speculation about his future.

"If President Bush nominates me, and the Senate confirms his choice, I would have every intention of serving," Greenspan, who is recovering at home from prostate surgery, said in a brief statement.

"The president and I have not discussed this but I greatly appreciate his confidence. I have been privileged to be appointed by five presidents to various positions." A rift between the Fed chief and the White House after Greenspan questioned the economic need for Bush's proposed $726 billion tax-cut package had prompted some economists to wonder whether he would remain for long at the helm of the central bank.

That question was answered on Tuesday when Bush declared his support for Greenspan, fueling an earnings-led rally in US stock markets.

"Any change in the status ... at the Fed would increase uncertainty regarding monetary policy, at least initially.

Uncertainty is always unwelcome," said Joe Francomano, vice president of foreign exchange at Erste Bank in New York.

Bush, who faces re-election in 2004, may also have been trying to avoid uncertainty by avowing his support for Greenspan since the economic management of the country lies in new hands after the president replaced his key economic advisors last year.

GREENSPAN

Meanwhile, it's business as usual at the Fed. The hardworking Greenspan, recuperating after a successful surgery, is expected to be back at his desk later in the week.

He will go to Capitol Hill next Wednesday to testify on monetary policy before the House of Representatives Financial Services Committee.

The past two years have been dramatic for the Fed, which under Greenspan has cut rates a dozen times to help the economy recover from the 2001 slump and its aftermath.

But the Fed chief is used to the eye of the economic storm.

Two months after he took the job in 1987, stock markets crashed, forcing him to pour liquidity into the financial system. He achieved nearly godlike status during the boom of the late 1990s but was criticized for letting it get out of hand.

Since then, Greenspan has won compliments for safely navigating the tumult that followed the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks and reacting quickly to the economy's recent woes, although the recovery has yet to gain real strength.

His current four-year stretch as Fed chief ends in June 2004, but his term as a Fed governor runs out in 2006. While the governorship is not renewable, he could stay at the central bank beyond that if no one is named to replace him.

Should he serve through May 2006, when he will be 80, he would top the nearly 19-year record set by William McChesney Martin, whose term ended in 1970.

Greenspan took the chairman's post in August 1987.

In throwing his weight behind Greenspan, Bush chose a path different from his father, former President George Bush, who blamed the Fed chairman in part for his 1992 election defeat, saying the Fed was too slow in cutting interest rates.

Lyle Gramley, a former Fed official and senior economic advisor with Schwab Washington Research Group, said the early endorsement from Bush was a surprise. "(Greenspan is) enormously respected in financial markets," he said. "I would not have anticipated it being done this early."

Greenspan is recovering from a second prostate operation, and though the Fed has said he does not have cancer, his age means his health could become a factor. Some analysts suggested the Bush administration would be wise to at least consider possible successors. *Reuters*

Asian IT sector to grow in 2003

SINGAPORE—The Asian information technology market is forecast to grow 7.6 percent to $77 billion in 2003, but this figure could shrink further due to poor demand from the SARS outbreak, a research firm said on Thursday.

The Asia Pacific ex-Japan IT market is expected to rebound strongly by 11.7 percent to $86 billion in 2004 after tepid growth this year.

The market rose 2.6 percent to $72 million in 2002, said International Data Corp (IDC) Asia Pacific.

"The SARS outbreak is expected to cut Asia Pacific IT growth rates by one to two percentage points," IDC managing director Piyush Singh said. "The SARS outbreak in the region has eroded hopes of rapid economic revival and the IT market outlook for the region remains mired in uncertainty."

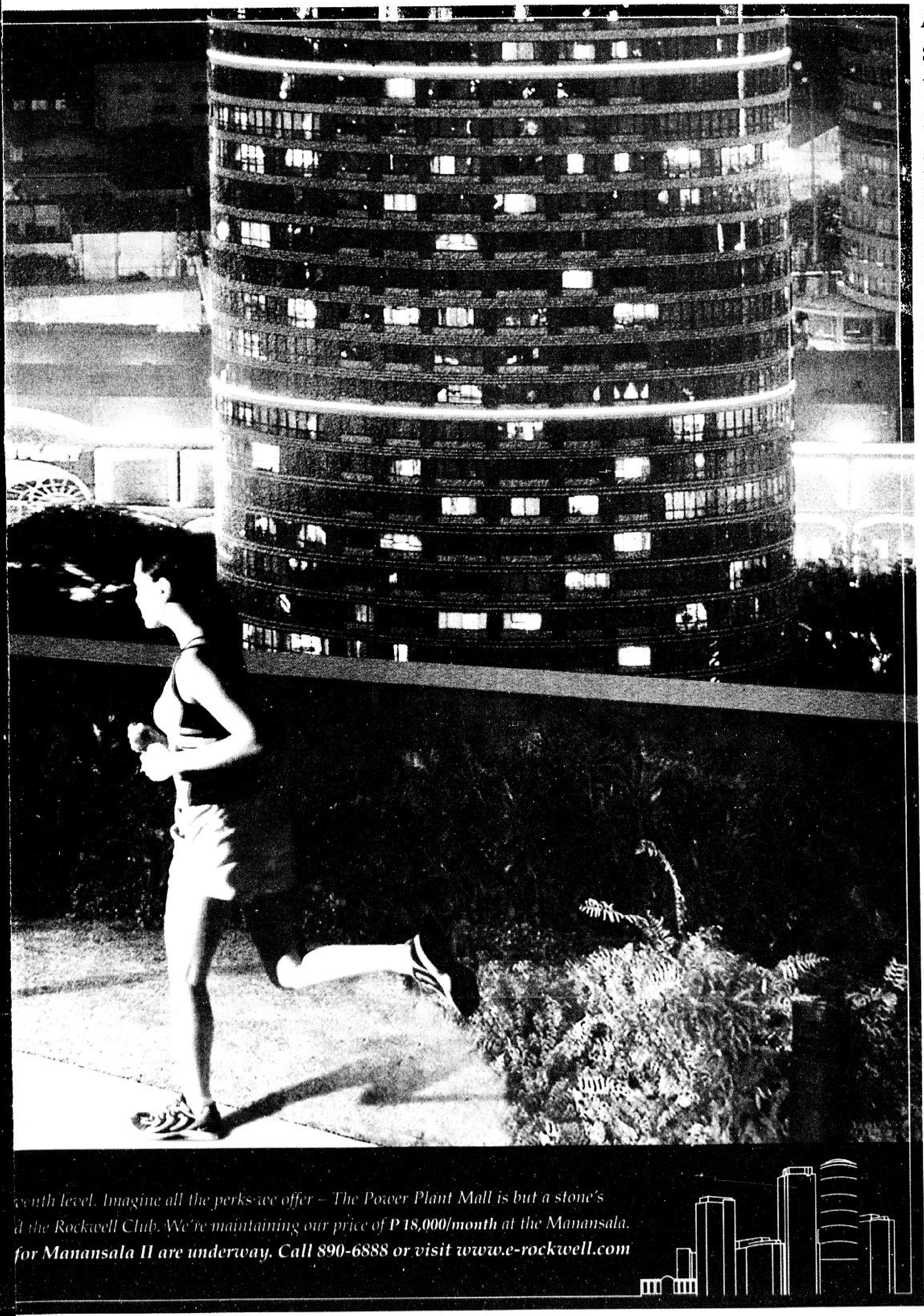
IT spending in China and India are expected to drive the market's rebound in 2004, he added. *Reuters*

Sony sees profit slide

TOKYO—Sony Corp, the world's largest consumer electronics maker, on Thursday forecast a fall in profits for the current business year, betraying analysts' expectations of continued growth as consumer demand stalled.

For the current business year that started on April 1, Sony projected a net profit of 50 billion yen ($415 million), less than half the prior year's worse-than-expected 115.52 billion yen and well below analysts' consensus forecasts of 180 billion yen, according to estimates by Reuters.

Operating profit, which excludes special items and is watched particularly closely by financial analysts in Japan, was seen at 130 billion yen, compared with last year's 185.44 billion yen result and analysts' 340 billion yen consensus forecast *Reuters*



venth level. Imagine all the perks we offer – The Power Plant Mall is but a stone's
d the Rockwell Club. We're maintaining our price of **P 18,000/month** at the Manansala.
for Manansala II are underway. Call 890-6888 or visit www.e-rockwell.com

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills
City of Mandaluyong, Metro Manila

1898 – 1998 100 KALAYAAN

IN THE MATTER OF
REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATE
OF REGISTRATION
x--------------------------------------x

ORDER

WHEREAS, all corporations are required to submit annual reports such as the General Information Sheet and Financial Statements pursuant to Sec. 141 of the Corporation Code of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the records of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) show that there are many corporations who failed to submit the abovementioned reports for the last six (6) consecutive years, i.e. for period 1997-2002;

WHEREFORE, NOTICE is hereby given that **those corporations registered from 1936 to 1966** who failed to submit the said reports are directed to appear within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this Order before the Law and Regulation Division, Company Registration and Monitoring Department of this Commission at the 3rd Floor, SEC Building, EDSA, Mandaluyong City during office hours and show cause why their Certificates of Registration should not be revoked.

After the lapse of the said thirty (30) day period and the said delinquent corporations have not updated their files, as well as, settled the corresponding fine or penalty, their Certificate of Registration shall be deemed revoked.

Let this Order be published once in a newspaper of general circulation.

SO ORDERED.

Mandaluyong City. April 22, 2003.

(Sgd.) **BENITO A. CATARAN**
Director
Company Registration and Monitoring Department

(PDI - April 25, 2003)

CASCADE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
The *Caraballo and Southern Cordillera Agricultural Development Programme* is an integrated development project of the Department of Agriculture jointly funded by the Government of the

GINTUANG MASAGANANG ANI

Invitation for Expression of Interest
Local Technical Assistant/Specialist
In Agricultural Technology Development and Promotion

In the scope of the Agricultural Production Systems Development Component, CASCADE is currently seeking one Local Technical Assistant (LTA) or Specialist in the field of Technology Development and Promotion. CASCADE is currently operating in the uplands of Nueva Vizcaya, Benguet and Nueva Ecija.

Applications are invited from qualified agriculturist with at least ten years experience in planning, development, extension, agricultural research, alliance building and networking with Local Government Units (LGUs). They should be physically fit and capable of working in the field/remote areas.

Expressions of interest together with full CVs and other pertinent documents in support of the application for the above mentioned areas of specialization should be submitted no later than May 9, 2003. Only qualified candidates will receive an acknowledgement and be given the full Terms of Reference (TOR).

All correspondence should be addressed to the following:

The Project Co-Directors
DA-CASCADE
Bonfal West, 3700 Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
Tel. No. (078)321-2605 & 321-4128
Telefax No. (078)805-3611
E-mail: cascade_erp@yahoo.co.uk

(PDI - Apr. 24 & 25, 2003)

Get your career off the ground.

JOBMarket ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

Republika ng Pilipinas
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT
Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City
Telephone No. 931-8101 to 07

PHILIPPINES 2000

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
Consultancy Services for System and Software Development for KALAHI-CIDSS MIS

The Government of the Philippines received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development toward the cost of **Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan - Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services Project** (KALAHI-CIDSS), and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payment for consultant's services.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development is currently implementing **KALAHI-CIDSS** that aim to reduce poverty in Regions CAR, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII and CARAGA, DSWD is in need of a consultancy firm which shall provide services on system and software development for KALAHI-CIDSS MIS.

The Service is expected to start in July 2003. All interested service providers are invited to submit their letter of interest at the address given below. Strong preference will be given to the service provider that has completed consulting services of size, complexity and technical specialty comparable to the job under consideration.

The consultants will be selected in accordance with the Procurement Guidelines set out by the *World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank borrowers*, dated January 1997, September 1997, July 1998, November 1999 and May 2002.

For further information, interested parties may inquire at the address given below from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Mondays to Fridays, except holidays. Qualification Statement Forms (QSF) shall be issued starting May 5, 2003. Duly accomplished Qualification Statement Forms together with brochures, description of similar assignment, experience in similar conditions, and availability of appropriate skills among staff must be submitted before May 20, 2003.

(Sgd.) **RHODA F. YAP**
Assistant Secretary and Chairperson,
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - Apr 25 & May 2, 2003)

Philippine Overseas Employment Administration

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
POEA Bldg., Origas Avenue cor. EDSA,
Mandaluyong City 1501
P.O. Box 175 Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. 7221144 • 7221155 • E-mail: info@poea.gov.ph
Website: www.poea.gov.ph

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 14
Series of 2003

TO : ALL LANDBASED LICENSED AGENCIES
SUBJECT : Guidelines on Transfer of Accreditation/Registration of Foreign Placement Agencies (FPAs)

Pursuant to Sec. 10, Rule I, Part III of the 2002 POEA Rules and Regulations Governing the Recruitment and Employment of Landbased Overseas Workers, the following guidelines shall govern the transfer of registration/accreditation of foreign placement agencies:

I. **Coverage**

Foreign Placement Agencies (FPAs) that have valid registration or accreditation with a Philippine Recruitment Agency (PRA) may transfer their registration or accreditation to another PRA upon submission of the necessary requirements. These guidelines shall not apply to FPAs whose registration or accreditation has already expired.

II. **Requirements for transfer of registration/accreditation**

1. Revocation by the FPA of the Special Power of Attorney (SPA) granted to the former agent. The revocation shall be notarized or certified or authenticated by the Chamber of Commerce or Notary Public or other similar offices in the jobsite;
2. Notice of the FPA to the previous agent of such revocation;
3. Application of the new agent for the transfer of registration or accreditation;
4. Verified SPA issued to the new agent, Manpower request and Master Employment Contract Verification shall be done by the Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) nearest the worksite prior to registration.
5. Affidavit of assumption of responsibility by the transferee agent.

III. **Action on the application for transfer of registration/accreditation**

1. Upon receipt of the application for the transfer of registration or accreditation, the Administration shall notify the previous agency of such application.
2. The Administration shall act on the request for transfer of registration or accreditation within twenty-four (24) hours upon submission of all requirements by the new transferee agency, provided there are no legal impediments or orders prohibiting such action.
3. Moreover, in accordance with Section 11 of the same Rule, claims for money or enforcement of obligations arising out of business relations between the FPA and the former agent may be conciliated by the Administration. However, the pendency of the conciliation shall not prevent the Administration from acting on the request for registration or accreditation if public interest so requires and the applicant meets all the requirements for registration or accreditation. If no compromise or amicable settlement is reached during the conciliation proceedings, the parties are free to ventilate their claims before the proper forum.
4. All actions on the applications for transfer shall be without prejudice to any action, administrative or otherwise, that may be instituted by the former agent against the principal (FPA).

The above requirements and procedures shall likewise apply to transfer of registration or accreditation of direct principals and/or employers.

All issuances inconsistent herewith, including those issued for special markets, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication.

For strict compliance.

(Sgd.) **ROSALINDA DIMAPILIS-BALDOZ**
Administrator

14 April 2003

(PDI – April 25, 2003)

PNOC
The Energy Company

PNOC-ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Energy Complex, Merritt Road
Fort Bonifacio, Makati City
Tel. No. 893-1320, Local 5279

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND BID

The PNOC-Energy Development Corporation invites eligible suppliers to apply and submit sealed bids for the supply and delivery of the following:

135 pcs. Various Sizes of Thermodynamic Steam Trap under FQX-32402

This invitation is open to all eligible suppliers of PNOC-Energy Development Corporation. Prospective bidders not presently prequalified with PNOC-Energy Development Corporation shall submit their pre-qualification documents **not later than fourteen (14) days before the deadline for the submission of the bids. The bids of prospective (but not yet pre-qualified) bidders who fail to submit their pre-qualification documents before the above deadline or those who fail to meet the company's pre-qualification requirement on the bid deadline shall be rejected and returned unopened.**

Bid documents shall be available for issuance at the above address c/o **Mr. Raffy S. Teylan** starting **April 7, 2003** and upon payment of non-refundable fee of P100.00 per document.

For purpose of clarifying certain matters, a pre-bidding conference shall be held on **April 22, 2003**, 2:00 p.m. at the above address.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security to be issued by the local agent/distributor, if any, with the amount indicated in the tender document, in the form acceptable to PNOC-EDC and must be delivered to the above office on or before **2:00 p.m. of May 6, 2003**. Public opening of bids shall follow immediately thereafter. Late bids shall not be accepted.

PNOC-Energy Development Corporation reserves the right to annul the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid which is most advantageous to PNOC-EDC without thereby incurring liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the ground(s) for PNOC-EDC's action.

(PDI – April 11 & 25, 2003)

Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

GIA
Thailand Campus

Learn the principles of quality Jewelry Design from the world's #1 gemological institute

Jewelry Design Class

Step-by-step, develop skills needed to create and illustrate designs for a variety of jewelry in fullcolor and fine detail

NO artistic training or experience required

Jewelry Design Class starts June 16, 2003

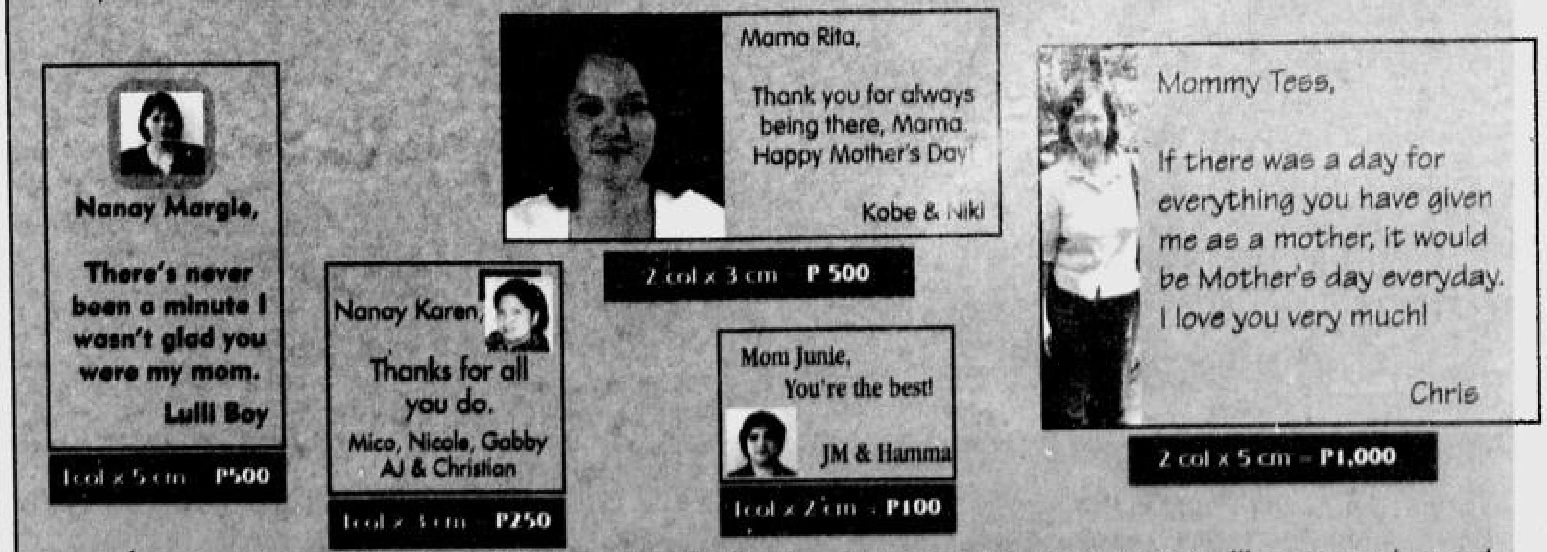
GIA Thailand Since 1993

Tel: (662) 237-9575 / 77
Fax: (662) 236-9829
giathai@ksc15.th.com
www.giathailand.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
MESSAGEBOARD
Mother's Day Treat

Warm your mom's heart with your deeply felt love note telling her how special she is to you.

On **May 11, Mother's Day, INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS**, the widest reaching classifieds, will highlight a *"Mother's day special section"* for personal ads dedicated to the first woman in all our lives.



Nanay Margie,
There's never been a minute I wasn't glad you were my mom.
Lulli Boy
1 col x 5 cm P500

Nanay Karen,
Thanks for all you do.
Mico, Nicole, Gabby AJ & Christian
1 col x 3 cm P250

Mama Rita,
Thank you for always being there, Mama. Happy Mother's Day!
Kobe & Niki
2 col x 3 cm P 500

Mom Junie,
You're the best!
JM & Hamma
1 col x 2 cm P100

Mommy Tess,
If there was a day for everything you have given me as a mother, it would be Mother's day everyday. I love you very much!
Chris
2 col x 5 cm = P1,000

Take advantage of this offer and this will surely be one of the BEST gifts your mom will ever receive and cherish. For more info, you may visit or call any Inquirer branch.

MAKATI (MAIN):
PASONG TAMO AVE., COR. YAGUE & MASCARDO STS.
MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8808 loc 514, 516
☎ 8978425(Direct)
fax 897-8425
e-mail: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

MAKATI BRANCH:
G/F ATRIUM BLDG.,
MAKATI AVENUE,
MAKATI CITY
☎ 811-4381/811-4370/811-4165/811-4012
fax 892-5578
e-mail: makati_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

QUEZON CITY:
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG.,
891 AURORA BLVD.,
CUBAO, QC
☎ 912-9008 to 10
fax 912-9011
e-mail: cubao_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

MANDALUYONG:
SM MEGAMALL, 5TH LEVEL
BUILDING B, EDSA
☎ 635-0219, 637-2008
fax 635-0220
e-mail: sm_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

MANILA:
G/F TRINITY BLDG.
T.M. KALAW ST.
ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 527-3342, 528-0183, 526-0186
fax 528-0213
e-mail: intra_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PROVINCIAL BRANCH:
PASONG TAMO AVE. COR. YAGUE & MASCARDO STS
MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8808 loc. 243
☎ 899-4427(Direct)
fax 897-8425
e-mail: nabad@inquirer.com.ph

CUI
EJERCITO
ABRERA
PASCUAL
TEVE
QU
SANTAMARIA

Need a career lift?

Ask your CEO mentors and career experts

Career Development Strategies
May 27, 28 and 29, 2003 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Santiago Hall, Mezzanine, Equitable PCI Bank Tower 1, HV de la Costa St., cor. Makati Ave., Makati City

May 27, 2003 (Tuesday)

Managing Your Career to the Top
Lecture:
Dr. Josie O. Santamaria,
President, Career Systems, Inc.

May 28, 2003 (Wednesday)

Keeping High Flyers in the Company
Lecture:
Ms. Thelma Geraldine A. Baricaua,
Sr. Consultant, Career Systems, Inc.

May 29, 2003 (Thursday)

Developing the Global Pinoy
Lecture:
Mr. Jorge G. Santamaria,
Managing Director, Career Systems, Inc.

CEO Forum (second part of each session) to be facilitated by CSI senior consultants, Ms. Myra S. Lapus and Ms. Carmen M. Gonzalez with at least two CEOs per session:

Ms. Emily Abrera, Chairman, McCann-Erikson Philippines; Mr. Carlos C. Ejercito, President & CEO, United Laboratories, Inc.; Mr. Gary B. Teves, President, Land Bank of the Philippines, Mr. Jose L. Cuisia, Jr., President, Philam Life & General Insurance Co.; Dr. Abraham F. Pascual, Chairman & CEO, Pascual Laboratories, Inc.; Ms. Cynthia R. Mamon, President & Managing Director, Sun Microsystems Philippines, Inc.; Mr. Joaquin E. Quintos, Country General Manager, IBM Philippines, Inc.

SUBSIDIZED REGISTRATION FEES: P300 (balcony), P400 (orchestra) and P500 (patron). Early bird discount of 10% if you pay before May 2, 2003

Tickets are available at the People at Work office, 4th floor, Philippine Daily Inquirer Bldg., Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague St., Makati City (897-8808 local 554).

A special **People *at* Work *Live!* Seminar Series**
in celebration of CAREER SYSTEMS, INC.'s 20th anniversary presented by

CAREER SYSTEMS INC
OPTIMUS MANAGERS & ADVISORS INC *Managing for Optimum Results*
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER, call OPTIMUS MANAGERS & ADVISORS, INC. at 935-6678 or email optima@edsamail.com.ph
Or contact any of the following INQUIRER Classified Ads branches: Main—Pasong Tamo, Makati City, 897-8808/897-2535; G/F Atrium Bldg., Makati Ave., Makati City 811-4361/811-4370/811-4012; St. Anthony's Bldg., Aurora Blvd. Quezon City 421-1420/421-0343; SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City 635-0219/637-2008; G/F Trinity Bldg., 636 T.M. Kalaw St., Manila 527-3342/528-0183/527-6357.

Brought to you by companies who care for people at work:

McGraw-Hill Education
McDonald's
JOB MARKET
POWERBOOKS
working mom
MICRODATA
SuperFerry
PHILAM LIFE

ENABLING DIGITAL WORKFLOW IN IMAGING, PRINTING, AND ANIMATION

GRAPHIC EXPO 2003
8th Edition

8th Graphic Expo 2003

A Technology Exposition & Seminar Series on Digital Imaging, Prepress, Print & Web Publishing
Incorporating

2nd Multimedia & Animation Show

Philippine Trade Training Center
Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, Philippines

June 04-07, 2003

Free Exhibit Entrance!

EXHIBIT PROFILE

- digital photography
- large format printing
- quick printing
- pre-press
- web publishing
- multimedia
- animation
- web graphics & video
- 3D & special effects
- iMusic & iMovies
- gaming & entertainment

Join and Win Prizes! Inquire for Competition guidelines now!

ANNUAL COMPETITIONS

- The Digital Art Competition (Categories: Digital Graphic Design, Digital Fine Art, Web Design)
- The Digital Imaging Contest
- The Animation Competition

SEMINAR TOPICS & SCHEDULE

Register and reserve your seminar seat!

June 04, 2003
- Photoshop Tips and Tricks
- Scanning Techniques and Color Management
- Design Essentials for Desktop Publishing
- How to Survive the Fonts Jungle: Basic of Typography
- Audio-Visual Presentation from Script to Screen: An Overview
- Producing VCDs and DVDs with Premiere 6.5

June 05, 2003
- Advanced Photoshop Techniques
- Professional Retouching Techniques
- 3D Studio Max
- Combustion with Cleaner
- Editing Essentials in Final Cut Pro 3
- Compositing, Color Correction & Special Effects with Final Cut Pro 3

June 06, 2003
- Inside FreeHand MX
- Designing a Dynamic Logo System
- Creating Explosive Web Graphics with Fireworks
- Energizing Flash MX Projects with Action Script
- Flash for Corporate Presentation
- Flash Cartooning

June 07, 2003
- Integrating Illustrator & Photoshop
- Designing Type with Illustrator
- What's New with Corel Draw 11
- PDF Workflow for Print Production
- Web Animation Essentials, Tools, and Techniques
- The Making of Web Videos

Organizer: fmi
In Cooperation With: eArt, IdN, IT Philippines, Animation Council of the Philippines, Inc., Philippine Center for Creative Imaging
Major Sponsors: hp, EPSON, FUJIFILM, SENCO LINK, GARDEN (Philippines), Inc., SONY
Media Sponsors: INQUIRER, The Manila Times, Times, IT UPDATE, WEB, Schrödinger Interactive

For details, please call: (632) 896 0639, 896 0637, 899 6893, fax: (632) 890 2101, 896 0637, email: fiera@info.com.ph, visit website: http://www.fmi.com.ph, http://www.graphicexpo.com.ph

OBITUARIES

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS •

ATTY. ROSARIO DE JESUS ALANO

Class '39 UP COLLEGE OF LAW
April 20, 1916 – April 23, 2003

Her bereaved family, relatives and friends request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at St. Martin Chapel in Sto. Domingo Church, Quezon Boulevard, Quezon City.

Interment will be at the Manila Memorial Park on Saturday, April 26, 2003 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Martin Chapel in Sto. Domingo Church.

EMILIA BARSANA AGUDO

Peacefully joined the Lord on April 23, 2003 at the age of 91.

A loving sister to **Gaspar** (+) and **Sabina A. Suguitan** (+), **Carlos** and **Hortensia A. Sobreviñas, Oscar** (+) and **Luz A. Ramos** (+). **Nicanor B. Agudo** (+) and **Teresita B. Agudo** (+).

A caring aunt to her nephews and nieces and a thoughtful grandaunt to her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Please join us in prayer for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the St. Alphonsus de Liguori Chapel, Magallanes Village, Makati. Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, April 26 at 9:00 a.m. at the St. Alphonsus de Liguori Chapel. Cremation will immediately follow at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque.

Mario B. Benoza

(Retired GSIS Employee)

Peacefully joined his Creator on April 23, 2003 at the age of 61.

His bereaved wife **PAULINA**; son **PAUL GERARD**, daughter-in-law **DONNA JAN**; brothers & sisters **AMELIA & NORBERTO, AVELINO (†) & TELANG, CELY, RUFINA & ROMY, CORA, BOY & VICKY, LITA & BOY** and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, G. Araneta Avenue Quezon City.

Interment will be on April 27, 2003 at South Cemetery after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

Ramona Camara Felix

Peacefully joined her Creator on April 24, 2003 after receiving the Holy Sacrament at the age of 85.

Her loving brothers and sisters **Jesus, Lourdes, Antonio** (†), **Manuela, Jose Jr.** (†), **Elay, Choling, Joaquin** and **Ben**; and her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; and nephews and nieces request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at the Crypt of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Broadway St., New Manila, Quezon City at 9:00 a.m., April 26, 2003 after which her cremated remains will be taken to Manila Memorial Park (Sucat).

All the services you need... in a most elegant setting.

GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK AND CHAPELS

(Specialists in US technique of soft, "natural texture" body preservation)

Kalsadang Bago, Pateros, MM, Philippines • Tel. Nos. 642-5234 to 35 ; 642-6181 to 82 ; Fax No. 642-8869

"Put all your cares under our care..."

"Let the words of my mouth meet your Favor, keep the thoughts of my heart before you, Lord, my rock, my redeemer..." Psalm 21:15

Batangueños can always call on Globelines

BATANGUENOS have been known to foster strong ties with their families, even when their family members are far away. With the ongoing conflict in Iraq, Globelines is extending help to Batanguenos helping them reach their families through the phone.

Globelines, the landline phone service of Globe Telecom, is offering Batanguenos free calls to the Middle East to give them means to get in touch with their family members and loved ones who are serving as overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in the Middle East. Globelines' free call project is presented in cooperation with Batangas City Mayor Eduardo Dimacuha and the city government of Batangas.

In offering its free calls, Globelines has allocated two phone lines at a Globelines booth located at Plaza Mabini, the quadrangle in front of the City Hall. The Globelines free call booth was opened to the public April in simple ceremonies led by Dimacuha and Globe wireline voice/centers head Tina Ortiz.

"This Globelines call center in which we offer free calls to the Middle East to families of OFWs gives us an opportunity to provide valuable help to Batanguenos, especially in a time when it is important to hear their voice and know what their condition is," said Ortiz. Batangas is one of the service areas of Globelines for the landline service.

Family members of OFWs were able to go to the Globelines free call booth to place their calls from April 14 to 16. Staff members of the city government of Batangas and Globelines were at hand to help callers with their free calls to provide assistance.

The Globelines calling center in Batangas was in line with other efforts of Globe Telecom to provide calling links to OFWs in the Middle East. Globe had also established similar free call centers at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium in Vito Cruz, Manila, the Presidential Action Center office in Malacanang, and at the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (Owwa) centers nationwide.

To make a free call at the Globeline booth, visitors had to register by providing their name and addresses, as well as name, country and contact number of the family member in the Middle East they intend to call. To be able to accommodate as many families as possible, free calls to the Middle East at the Globelines booth were limited to three minutes per call.

HANDOG NI
MAYOR EDDIE
AT GLOBE
FREE CALL

AN ELECTRONIC signboard in the middle of Batangas City (left) announces the Globelines free calling station. Right picture shows Batangas City Mayor Eduardo Dimacuha (standing left) and Globe Telecom wireline voice/centers head Tina Ortiz (standing right) assisting two Batanguenos calling their loved ones in the Middle East.

GLOBE PRESENTS 'MTV 2003 MOVIE AWARDS'

This year's MTV Movie Awards, presented by Globe, promises to be just as big, if not bigger and definitely more awesome, with the most sensational live performances, hysterical film spoofs and exciting and irreverent spins to the traditional movie awards ceremonies. And Filipino movie fans can join a slew of cool screenings leading to the much-awaited awarding ceremonies on May 31. Globe will also hold a weekly contest wherein winners will receive MTV Movie Awards merchandise and the chance to fly to Los Angeles to watch the awards night. Shown are MTV Philippines and Globe executives after forging their partnership, from left, Francis Lumen, managing director of MTV Philippines, Nicanor V. Santiago III, vice president, new products development division, Globe Telecom, Ana D. Singson, vice president, corporate marketing/Touch Mobile, Globe Telecom, Deeda Gorospe, corporate legal affairs officer, Globe Telecom, Bubbles Barretto, consultant, corporate marketing, Globe Telecom, Amando S. Reyes, senior manager, corporate marketing, Globe Telecom, and Bong Paderna, business development director, MTV Philippines.

Load
OF
SUMMER
FREEBIES
AT
Select

SHOWN at the contract signing are, from left, Aileen Vardeleon, Globe senior product manager for prepaid, Miguel Suterio, Shell Select Convenience retailing manager, Allan Supnet, Globe senior marketing manager for prepaid, and Archie Arceño, Shell Select product category Manager.

'Summer of Freebies' at Shell Select

THIS SUMMER, staying cool and connected is as easy as Globe eloading at participating Shell Select outlets nationwide. Globe Prepaid, in partnership with Shell Select, has come up with a surefire way to beat the summer heat with its latest promo dubbed as, Globe eLoad of Summer Freebies. From April 12 to May 31 you can reload your phone credits and get cool treats at any of the 43 Shell Select outlets nationwide.

For every purchase of Globe eLoad credits worth P250 and P300, Globe Handyphone subscribers get a refreshing Nestle Frizzy or a Jelly Pops. Or get a Globe eLoad credits valued at P500 to avail yourself of a thirst quenching large Nestea Iced Tea or a satisfying Tender Juicy Hotdog Sandwich.

Suddenly need a SIM pack while on the road? Just pop into a Shell Select, buy a Globe Hi-Memory SIM pack and you'll be entitled to a free Nestle Frizzy or Jelly Pops. The much-coveted Globe Hi-Memory SIM is capable of storing 65 text messages and 300 phone book entries, making it easier for you to store the numbers of all those new friends you make at your summer escapades.

To avail yourself of freebies, just surrender your used eLoad transaction slip to the Shell Select cashier. For the Globe Hi-Memory SIM pack purchase, just present the signed official receipt (OR) to the cashier to claim free goodies.

Globe eLoad, one of the latest innovations from Globe Handyphone, offers a more convenient and flexible way to reload your phone credits. It also offers more affordable credit reloading options, starting at P250, P300, P500 to as much as P1,000.

Enjoy your summer getaway to the fullest by making sure you have enough phone credits to stay connected. Now its just a step away, even while driving on the highway with Globe and Shell Select. Globe eLoad is available at convenience stores like Shell Select, selected ATMs and in a growing number of accredited retail outlets nationwide.

A grand tour of the Grand Prix

YUPPIES who feel the need for a speed fix and who have the money to burn get their fix through fast cars, powerful motorbikes or any other contraption that lets them feel the fast rush of wind on their faces. For those who are fortunate (or unfortunate, depending on the state of their wallet) enough to have this kind of fix, there is only one word-an alphabet and a number, actually-that comes to mind when it comes to all-out entertainment fit enough for a speed junkie: the Formula One.

With its Checkered Flag Promo, GlobeQuest, the Internet and data arm of Globe Telecom that provides business solutions to corporate customers, recently promoted the F1. Like the F1, the best way to describe GlobeQuest's DSL services is through speed. Also unbelievably fast like the F1 cars, GlobeQuest DSL is the unbelievably fast way to connect to the Internet, leaving other forms of Internet connection way behind.

Through its Checkered Flag Promo, GlobeQuest gave away Ferrari, MacLaren-Mercedes and BMW original premium merchandise items, including the Fila Ferrari Sneakers, which is a replica of the racing shoes Michael Schumacher himself uses. As the major prize, GlobeQuest offered an all-expense-paid trip for two to the Malaysian Grand Prix in Sepang on March 23. The lucky winner that brought home the prize of all prizes was Luen Thai International's Bong Papa. As part of the package, Papa was also given some pocket money courtesy of GlobeQuest, stayed in Hotel Equatorial and sat on the best seats in the track with a good view of the pit stop and racetrack.

Good seats to the Sepang Track went for around $40 and granted one entry to the circuit's covered hill stand, where one could sit on the grass along with the other 121,000 fans mostly dressed in Red Ferrari outfits and brandishing huge F1 flags, banners and umbrellas. The avid racing fans were composed of a lot of Europeans, but the rest of the pack were Malaysians who came with their families, including kids as young as a year old.

At the trackside, the heat was on, literally. It was 39 degrees C. To douse the heat, some race watchers even started showering in the nearby faucets.

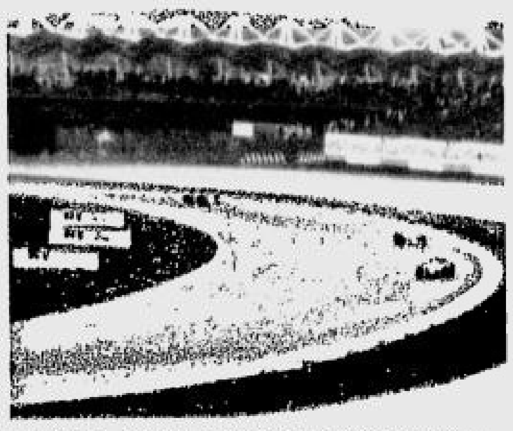
Before the race, the F1 organizers arranged for F18 Hornets of the Malaysian military to fly for a good 15 minutes (apparently for the audience to get used to the noise). Then the safety car finally went around for a lap, and off the F1 cars roared for 66 laps. To get a better view of the action, one had to come close to the tracks.

The race finished at 4:30 p.m., and every race fan, though exhausted, was wearing undeniable expressions of satisfaction, their fix fully satisfied for the year, at least.

With the F1 experience, one would realize the F1 is not just about speed, but also about skills, superiority, workmanship of equipment, teamwork, strategy and branding.

With its fast Internet speeds, every speed junkie need not go to the F1 in Malaysia to get a dose of their speed fix-they can do it whenever they want via GlobeQuest DSL.

BONG Papa and son Parlo after the race: exhausted but happy.



FERRARI, Jordan and Renault race for F1 glory.

Bits & Clips

Professional Secretaries Week

THE WORLDWIDE celebration of Professional Secretaries Week is ongoing from April 20 to 26. The Philippine Association of Secretaries and Administrative Professionals (PAS) is the Philippine organizing body. The following is the schedule of events: April 20-Feeding program and children's Easter egg hunt in Makati, thanksgiving Mass at the AIM Chapel, and afternoon tea at National Sports Grill, Makati City; April 21-Free day; April 22 and 23-Administrative Professional's National Convention 2003 "Passion for Excellence on Global Trends and Innovations", Dusit Hotel Nikko, Makati; April 24-Secretaries' Fellowship Night, Hyatt Regency, Manila, 6 p.m.; April 25-Executives' Night, Ballroom, Dusit Hotel Nikko, 7 p.m.; April 26-1st Invitational Golf Tournament, Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club, Gen. Trias, Cavite City, 7 a.m.

KWF media forum

AS PART of the government's commitment to promote the Filipino language nationwide, the Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino (KWF) will conduct a media forum around the Philippines, which will kick off on April 25 in San Fernando City, La Union. The project will gather all media practitioners around the country with the objective of seeking their support to help the government in its campaign to propagate the Filipino language as a symbol of unity and understanding among Filipinos. Aside from media practitioners, the Commission would also seek the support of other government and private agencies to help in the campaign.

Bayaning Pilipino Awards 2003

AMIDST the multitude of trials Filipinos face daily, a group of individuals still stand out as an example that integrity, generosity and social concern still burn in the hearts of our countrymen. These individuals will be honored once again on April 25 as ABS-CBN Broadcasting stages its Bayaning Pilipino awards 2002-2003. The awards recognize individuals, families, and organizations that have contributed significantly to the improvement of the lives of other Filipinos. The project is a joint effort by ABS-CBN and the Ugat Foundation, and was started in 1995. One winner will be chosen from the following categories: Bayaning Pilipino (individual category), Bayaning Pamilyang Pilipino, [illegible] Pilipino (institution), Bayaning Pilipino sa Asya Pasipiko (OFW) and the Bayaning Gurong Pilipino (teacher).

Easter concert at AILM

THE SAN Miguel Master Chorale presents a program of sacred works, gospel songs and inspirational music in an Easter concert at St. Andrew's Chapel, Cathedral Heights, Quezon City tonight at 7 p.m. The SMMC was invited by the Asian Institute for Liturgy and Music to cap its annual workshop for choral conductors and enthusiasts held this year at the AILM Cathedral Heights Campus April 21 to 25. The annual activity is focused on raising the artistic standards of mixed choirs in the Philippines. Admission to the SMMC Easter Concert is free. St. Andrew's Chapel is located at the Philippine Episcopal Church Compound, 275 E. Rodriguez Sr. Boulevard, Cathedral Heights, Quezon City. For more information, call 722-8575 or 722-5554.

Awards for journalists

LAWYER Ronquillo Tolentino, columnist of Panay News, Butz Maquinto, RGMA-DYRU broadcaster, and Roman de la Cruz, publisher of the oldest newsweekly in Aklan, lead a group of journalists, both print and broadcast, who will be conferred awards of recognition for their achievements in journalism during the celebration of the 47th founding anniversary of the Aklan province and the First Community Press Summit today at 7 p.m. at the Goding P. Ramos Park, Aklan Capitol Site, Kalibo, Aklan. Selmar S. Maribojo, deputy secretary general of the First Community Press Summit, and veteran journalist Paquito S. Saratiosa, are taking charge of the award ceremonies.

Lastimoso receives award

RETIRED General Roberto Lastimoso, former Chief of the Philippine National Police, will be conferred a special award of merit by the Aklan Press Club (APC) and the Publishers Association of the Philippines Inc (Papi) during the 47th foundation anniversary of Aklan province, in recognition of his distinguished service to promote the safety of community journalists and pro- [illegible] freedom. Lastimoso, currently assistant secretary of the DOTC has also been invited to address the plenary session of the First Community Press Summit April 25 to 27 in Kalibo and Boracay Island. The visit of Lastimoso in Aklan will also serve as a reunion of the DOTC official with his friends and classmates during his school days in Kalibo.

Cool night at Chef and Brewer

CHEF and Brewer Café and Restaurant celebrates summer with an exciting event called "Cool Summer Night" on April 26 at its main outlet in Emerald Avenue, Ortigas and on May 3 at its Greenbelt 1, Makati branch. The restaurant will turn its sidewalk into a blaze of summer, as bazaars will be put up to sell colorful apparel and accessories, beads and other trinkets. To make the night true to its theme, customers are requested to wear the latest, if not the hottest, tropical wear. A special corner will be dedicated to henna tattooing. Free trips to well-known resorts will be given away to several customers with the best summer wear and the most creative henna tattoo. Time and a Half and Acoustic Jive will play in Chef and Brewer Ortigas, while Sabor Latina and Q&A heats up the night at the Makati branch. The summer party will be covered exclusively by Net 25 and M Zone magazines will be distributed to all customers.

'Pop' orchestra in RP

STAGEWORKS Production, in cooperation with Nuestra Senora de los Desamparados Catechetical Foundation Inc. brings the first ever "pop" orchestra in the Philippines to Marikina City. Headed by resident conductor Maestro Eliezer San Felipe, the De La Salle University Pops Orchestra is a 60-piece orchestra composed of young, talented musicians from one of the most prestigious universities in the Philippines. Coming from a successful concert March 15 showcasing original Pilipino music, the group is scheduled for a repeat. The concert, "PinOy oPuS…The Repeat" is going to be staged at Teatro Marikina on April 26, 7:30 p.m. The show will also feature the young singing group who popularized the song "Sukob Na," 17:28. For tickets to a night of good music and entertainment, call Cherry-Lyn Velez at 0917 [illegible] or [illegible]

Rica Arambulo at The Podium

THE PODIUM'S "In Black and White Keys" series continues as pianist and vocalist Rica Arambulo performs at the mall tonight at 7 p.m.

The event, in cooperation with Citylite 88.3, will be held at The Podium's Second Level Activity Center.

Rica has carved a special niche in the pop music industry, and has been known for her excellent work as a keyboardist, musical director, and an award winning composer and arranger.

As a keyboardist arranger, Rica says that singing her own songs is one of the most powerful means of music expression, "and it also happens to be the most fulfilling art form ever created," she enthuses.

Starting out as a classical piano wonder kid excelling in different competitions, Rica's passion in music began in childhood-joining school glee clubs and playing different instruments like drums, percussion, recorders, and electones. In her teens, she played with bands like Blue Eyes, Metropolis, In Season, and Big Thing.

A cum laude graduate of the University of the Philippines (with a Bachelor's Degree Major in Piano and Minor in Voice), Rica took further studies at the Grove School of Music and trained at the Suzuki Piano Institutes in Japan and in the United States.

Since then, she has pursued pop music full time in concerts, television, and in theater. She has also done album recordings as a session musician, arranger, and musical director. Some of the highlights in Rica's career include her placing third in the 1998 Metropop Festival with her entry "You Make Me Smile" and her collaboration with Louie Ocampo and Wilbur Victoria in the musical "Baclaran" in 1999.

Rica has also done a self-titled album under Viva's Vacation Music Label, which contains all-original compositions, mostly ballads in acoustic style arrangements. The album, wherein she redefines old pop-ballad formulas by stripping them down to their barest essences, reveals her diverse musical influences-classical, rock, R and B, jazz, new age, and folk.

"In Black and White Keys" is hosted by Jong Cuenco.

España Tower April relaunch package attractive

REAL estate brokers look forward to brisk sales of reserved units at The Espana Tower, a fully developed ready-for-occupancy residential and office condominium on Espana Boulevard.

Lynn Maceda, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the FF Land Corp., recently presented to them an April "President's Month" cash sales package, which would be made available during an open house relaunch at The Espana Tower on April 26 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

FF Land Corp. is the real estate arm of an internationally noted Philippine construction company.

Chapter presidents and representatives of the Real Estate Brokers Association of the Philippines noted the "President's Month" package to be very attractive, coupled with the fact that the 32 story The Espana Tower is now a landmark edifice for high-rise development on Espana boulevard.

This, as sales reports have started to pour into the FF Land office since the packages' introduction two weeks ago.

The Espana Tower has become a popular site of reputable telecoms and engineering offices. Situated on the block after the Welcome Rotonda, it is right next to the PLDT building and close to the United Doctors Medical Center.

With its valuable features of 24-hour security, use of natural light and tropical air convection that enhances ventilation, The Espana Tower's residential units appeal to parents of students, particularly medical and nursing students at the University of Santo Tomas and the Perpetual Help Nursing College and other schools in nearby University Belt.

Amenities include multi-level parking, swimming pool, function rooms, gym and commercial units, and a ground floor reception lobby.

The Espana Tower is also built on a foundation of natural rock for solid stability.

Attractive incentives have also been laid out for other payment terms. Prices of studio units start at P800,000; one-bedroom units at P1.2 million; two-bedroom units P2.5 million; and three-bedroom units at P3 million. Special units at the Penthouse are also open for sale on a first-come, first-served basis. Financing through banks are also available. Interested parties can call Evelyn S. Pena or Nitz P. Cerrero at 426-2929, 426-2950 or 0918-9422546.

BCHS '69's singing challenge

THE BCHS Class 1968-1969, in celebration of its 34th anniversary, will be holding the 1st Binangonan Inter-Barangay Singing Challenge on May 1, 7 p.m. at the Rodriguez Park, Poblacion, Binangonan, Rizal. The vocal solo competition is open exclusively to bona fide residents of Binangonan, Rizal. Prizes at stake are: grand prize of P5,000 plus trophy, 2nd prize of P3,000 plus trophy, and a 3rd prize of P2,000 plus trophy. The competition aims to give the people of Binangonan wholesome quality entertainment and to assemble the best talents in town. For more details, call Nora San Rufino at 673-5235 care of the Mayor's Office, Binangonan, Rizal.

Youth parliament assembly

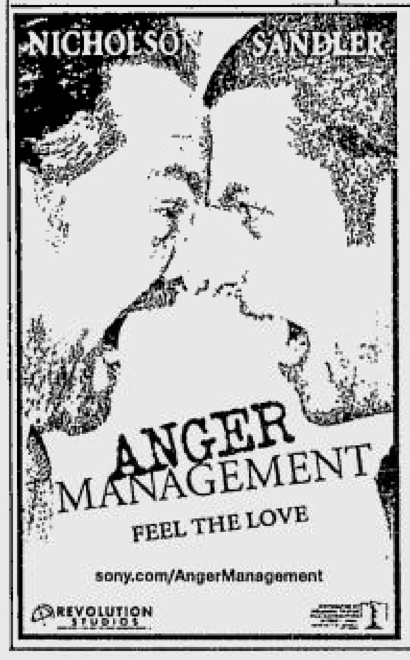
YOUTH parliamentarians will convene in Manila this April 26 and 27 at the DOT auditorium for a general assembly. Celebrating youth empowerment, the event's theme "Con-Fusion" focuses on youth, peace and culture. Guest speakers include TV host/columnist Solita Monsod, arts advocate Cecile Guidote Alvarez and former PMS head Vicky Garchitorena. The National Youth Parliament (NYP) is a body of youth leaders, representing the country's provinces and major youth organizations, convened every two years, by virtue of Republic Act 8044 or Youth in Nation-Building Act.

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

JUNGLE BOOK 2 GP EQUILIBRIUM R13	ANGER MANAGEMENT R13 11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00	PHONE BOOTH R13 12:35,2:30,4:25, 6:20,8:15,10:10
WHAT A GIRL WANTS GP 11:30, 1:40, 3:50, 6:00, 8:10, 10:20	A MAN APART R13 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00	JOHNNY ENGLISH P13 11:00, 12:55, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50, 10:50

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

MTRCB R-13 | Strictly for 13 years of age and up



Adam Sandler, Jack Nicholson offer non-stop laughs in fun, new comedy

In the No. 1 comedy in America, Adam Sandler and Jack Nicholson star together for the first time as patient and therapist -- though at times it's hard to tell which one is which!

After a misunderstanding aboard an airplane, mild-mannered Dave Buznik (Sandler) is ordered to attend anger management sessions run by outrageous psychiatrist Dr. Buddy Rydell (Nicholson).

Tortured by Buddy's wacky and abrasive confrontational methods, Dave must decide whether to crawl back into his shell or stand up for himself, and keep his girl (Marisa Tomei) along the way.

With surprise appearances by top celebrities.

NOW SHOWING

GET YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE!
OPENS APRIL 30 AT
AYALA CINEMAS
Glorietta 1 & 4 / Greenbelt 1 & 3
Alabang Town Center

Buy your tickets directly at Glorietta 4 & Greenbelt 3 Cinemas.

Or reserve your seats at www.sureseats.com

For screening times, call 729-7777

MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13 (PG-13)

PEPSI

AYALA CINEMAS

NOW SHOWING AT Greenbelt 1 ArtFilm
DARING, AWARD-WINNING, EXTRAORDINARY

"The single most visually dazzling movie of the last half-decade."
– Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Love, revenge and power form a deadly struggle in this fierce Roman drama by Shakespeare.

TITUS

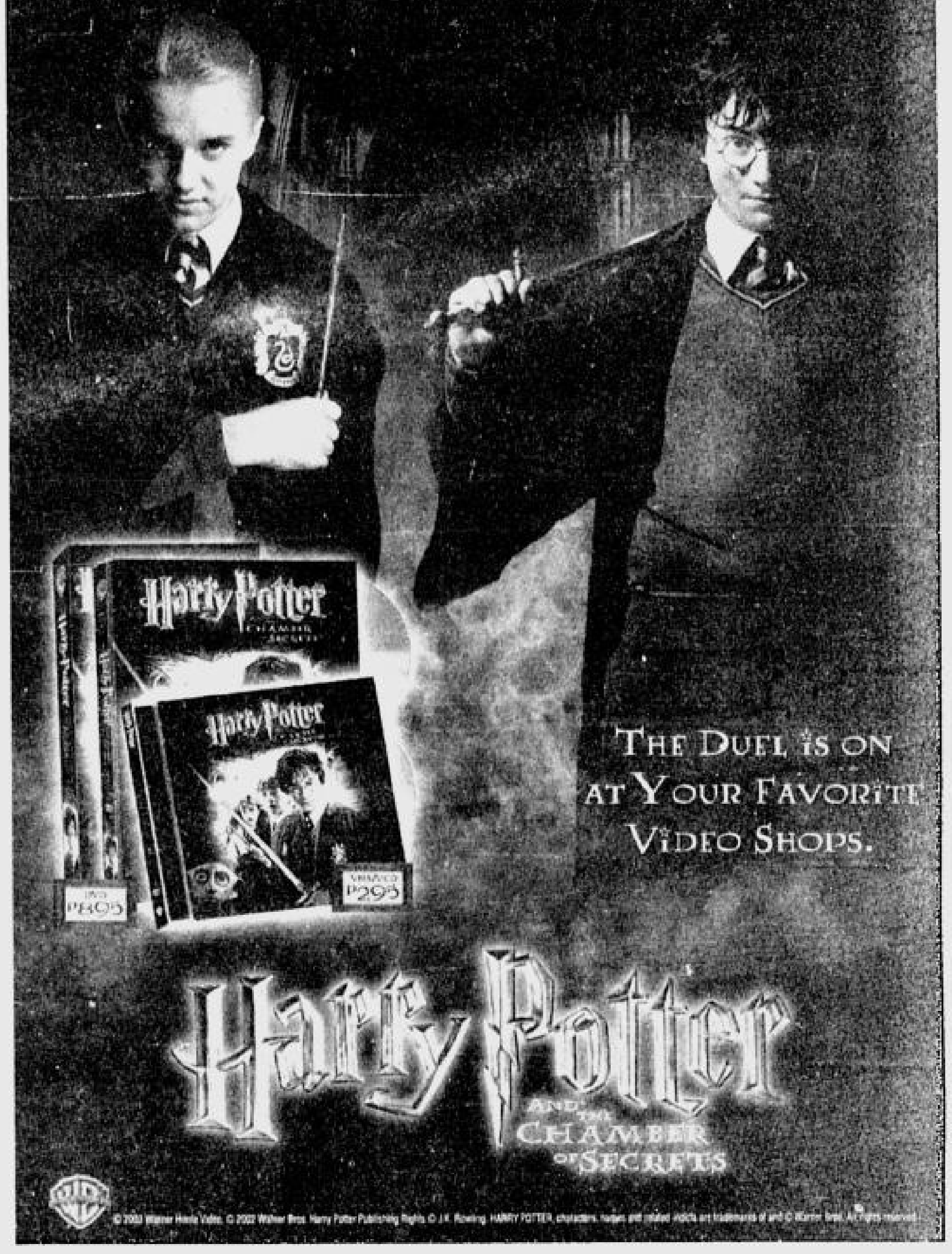
ANTHONY HOPKINS & JESSICA LANGE
Harry J. Lennix, Alan Cumming, Laura Fraser

In this epic tale of revenge based upon the play of William Shakespeare, Anthony Hopkins stars as Titus Andronicus, the Roman general who sows the seeds of vengeance when he executes the son of the enemy Queen, played by Jessica Lange. The repercussions of his action are revealed when the vindictive woman becomes the new wife of the Roman Emperor.

MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R-18)

SKYFILMS NOKIA INQUIRER

"EVEN MORE MAGICAL THAN THE FIRST!"
Joel Siegel, GOOD MORNING AMERICA/ABC-TV



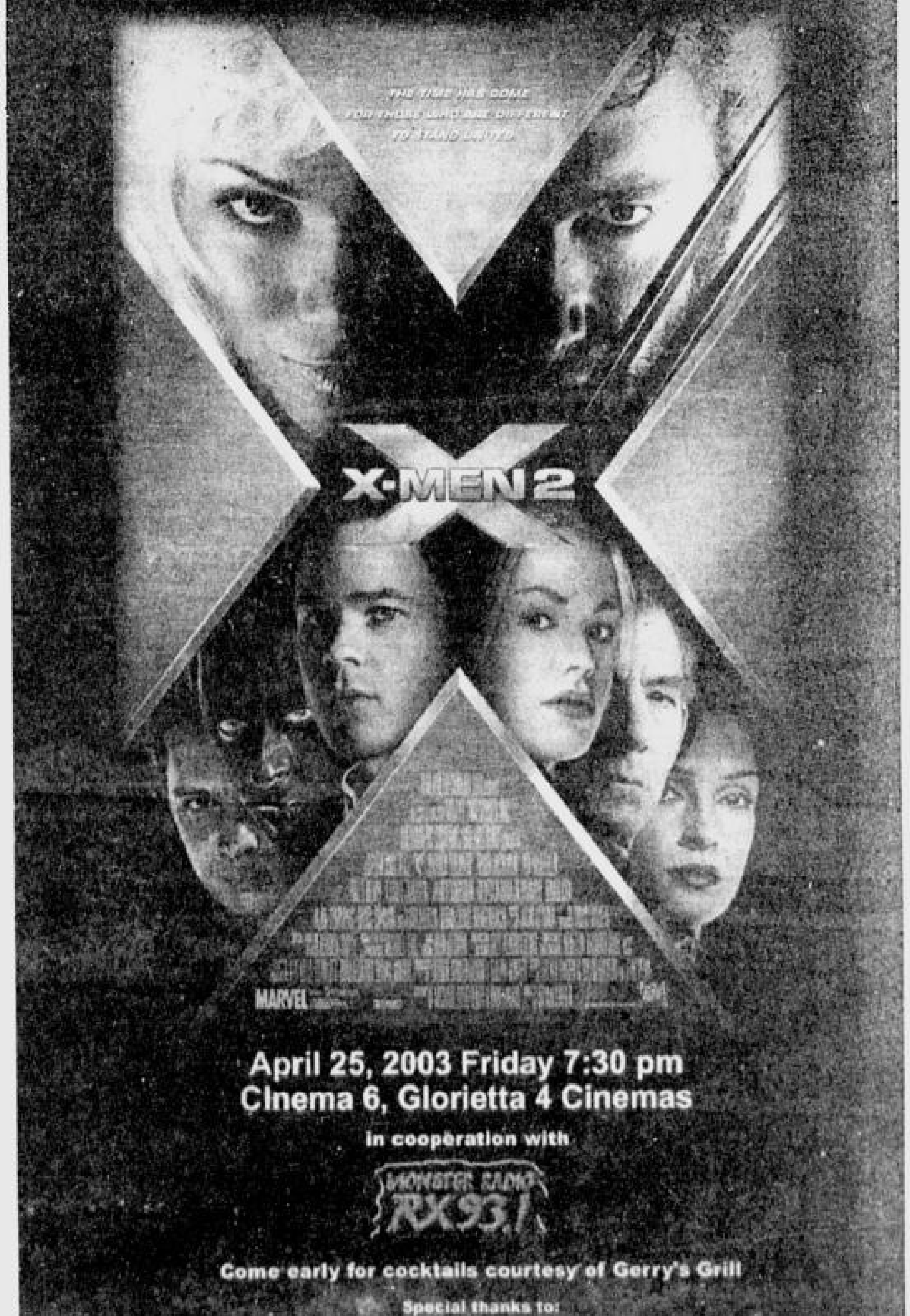
THE DUEL IS ON AT YOUR FAVORITE VIDEO SHOPS.

Harry Potter AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

© 2003 Warner Home Video. © 2002 Warner Bros. Harry Potter Publishing Rights © J.K. Rowling. HARRY POTTER, characters, names and related indicia are trademarks of and © Warner Bros. All rights reserved.

Ang Tindi! 20th CENTURY FOX

Cordially invite you to the Special Invitational Screening of



April 25, 2003 Friday 7:30 pm
Cinema 6, Glorietta 4 Cinemas

in cooperation with

MONSTER RADIO RX93.1

Come early for cocktails courtesy of Gerry's Grill

Special thanks to:

AYALA CINEMAS PEPSI Gerry's Grill

15 RP firms seen to bag juicy deals in Iraq

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Elena R. Torrijos

EEI Corp. and DM Consunji Inc. lead a list of 15 Philippine contractors that the Department of Trade and Industry believes would get deals in Iraq's postwar rehabilitation because of their linkages with American engineering and construction firms.

Philippine Contractors Association president Emilio Tumbocon said the only way Philippine companies could get a piece of Iraq's reconstruction projects was through the giant American corporations—specifically Bechtel Corp., Flour Daniel, Halliburton and Brown & Root—that were likely to corner all the juicy deals in the repair and rehabilitation of Iraq's vital infrastructure such as power and water facilities, government buildings, hospitals, airports and seaports.

Many contracts for the emergency repair and construction of infrastructure in Iraq are expected to be granted over the next several months.

Since all the work for non-US firms would be through subcontracting arrangements, Tumbocon said Filipino engineering and construction firms that have worked with US principals would have an edge in getting juicy deals.

Based on data furnished by the Philippine Overseas Construction Board (POCB), the Filipino firms with American partners are EEI (Bechtel and Braun Transworld Corp.), DM Consunji (San Juan Construction Inc.), AG&P Co. of Manila (Pullman Kellog and Bechtel), Eastern Construction Inc. (Smith International), Philippine Iron and Construction and Marine Works (Blount International), ERECSA Inc. (Brown & Root International).

Sources said F.F. Cruz was also keen on getting subcontracting works in Iraq.

The POCB said Philippine contractors had completed nearly $700 million worth of projects in Iraq from 1980 to 2001 ranging from highways to buildings to the drainage system.

Newly-appointed Philippine Ambassador to Iraq Jose Ibazeta said in an interview yesterday that many local groups supplying manpower and materials for small and medium industries were also interested in doing business in Iraq.

However, Ibazeta said that one of the main objectives of the Philippine embassy would be to help Iraq rebuild through humanitarian assistance.

Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II said the Philippines has an edge over other countries licking their chops over Iraq's postwar reconstruction because of its long experience in construction projects in Iraq and its unwavering support to US President Bush. "We think our closeness with the US will work in our favor," Roxas said.

The DTI has tapped the PCA to facilitate all inquiries for construction projects in Iraq, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration for labor contractors, and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. for manufactured goods.

Move in sooner than you think.

Why wait 5 years?

Orchid Tower. Completed and turned over to you by 2004.

An affordable Makati lifestyle... right within your reach.

A prime property appreciating through the years.

Move around. In Minutes: right in the heart of Makati CBD.

Oriental Gardens Makati

The Executive Residential Condo

An honest to goodness podium garden...
Koi pond... sunbathing deck,
aerobics and gym facilities...
moongate playground...
an oasis amidst an urban jungle.

Up there, life is what you make it.

Come visit our VIP Open House!
April 11 & 25 (Fridays), 4 to 8 PM
Easy payment schemes available.
Studio, 1BR, 2BR Showrooms open daily.
17F, GT Tower, Ayala Avenue corner
Dela Costa Street, Makati City

Pasong Tamo St. near
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. (Buendia)

Make that Move now.

Hurry up and call...Omni-Orient Marketing Network Inc.
+63(2) 810 4695 • 810 4694 • 810 4693
www.orientalgardens.com.ph

For Announcement Purposes Only.

DTI, DOLE to study strike ban proposal

THE DEPARTMENTS of Trade and Industry and Labor and Employment said they would look into the proposed 10-year nationwide ban on labor strikes although both doubt whether the state could mandate such a strike moratorium.

"We will take a look at the proposal and undertake appropriate consultations with concerned sectors," said Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II. "But this early I would like to say that the government cannot designate a no-strike zone in the country because of constitutional restrictions."

Labor Undersecretary Manuel Imson said his agency would also study the proposal which has already stirred a "violent reaction" from labor groups because "something good might arise from the proposal" such as higher investments and more jobs. "But we also have to uphold the rights of workers and our obligations to the International Labor Organization," Imson said.

Roxas said that while the government favored a more peaceful labor front, any agreement on a strike moratorium should be made voluntary rather than mandatory.

The Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Japan Chamber of Commerce Inc. have called on the government to impose a temporary ban on labor strikes that they claimed have been on the rise despite government efforts to curb labor activism.

FFCCCI president Robin Sy said his members were ready to create at least 3 million jobs but they were anxious that a labor strike might derail their business plans. JCCCI chair Ryukichi Kawaguchi said that the government's answer to the businessmen' labor woes, the quick reaction teams, have only muddled the problem because of too many players and agencies involved.

Roxas said that DTI statistics showed that the number of work stoppages arising from strikes have declined in the last two years. "We continue to endeavor through a variety of means such as a fast reaction team to ensure stability in the labor front," Roxas said.

Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

Gov't seen losing P7.36B due to VAT on banks

THE GOVERNMENT stands to lose as much as P7.36 billion in revenue due to the change in the tax system applied on financial institutions from the gross receipt tax scheme to the value-added tax system.

This was the worst-case scenario based on simulations comparing the VAT system with the GRT system done by the Bankers Association of the Philippines.

The simulations showed that the revenue derived by the government from banks through the GRT system was greater than the potential income from the imposition of the 10 percent VAT.

"It seems like a sado-masochistic way of taxation. You're hurting yourself because you collect less than what you would from the GRT, you're not getting much more in audit trail and you hurt the ones you love such as the farmers and home buyers," BAP tax committee vice-chair Miguel Andaya said in an interview.

The best case scenario is that revenue loss from VAT will only be P800 million while mid-case revenue loss is seen to reach P4.08 billion.

Since not all clients of banks are VAT registered, the BAP presented three cases based on the percentage of bank income generated from VAT-registered clients.

The VAT on this portion will not increase total collection since it will be used as input VAT, which means it will be credited to the client.

In the worst-case scenario, the BAP assumed that 70 percent of the bank clients were VAT-registered. Under the mid-case and best-case scenarios, the BAP assumed that 60 percent and 50 percent of the clients were VAT-registered.

"The likelihood that Case 1 (worst-case) will prevail is high because business loans are predominantly more than consumer loans," the BAP said.

Elena R. Torrijos

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

BUSINESS Friday

Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

JOCANO

Into the consumer's heart: Pinoy's buying pattern

IN marketing a product or service, the most important thing to consider is not what one is selling, but whom one is selling to.

The success or failure of any marketing strategy depends largely on the consumer, without whom there can never be a sale. What makes people tick, what makes them actually go out and buy something—this is what marketers must learn and should always keep in mind.

So says noted anthropologist Dr. F. Landa Jocano, executive director of Punlad Research House and one of the keynote speakers at the upcoming 34th National Marketing Conference organized by the Philippine Marketing Association (PMA) on May 28 and 29 at the Westin Philippine Plaza.

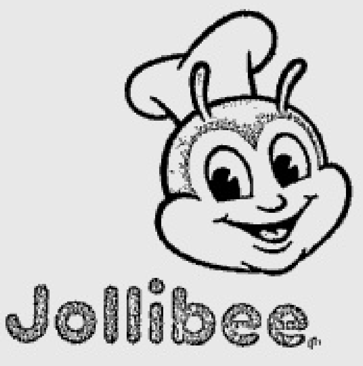
Studies on consumer behavior have proven to be invaluable in developing effective marketing strategies for a business that is fiercely competitive.

Says Jocano, "The question that you must ask yourself is, Why should this person buy from me and not from my competitor?"

INTO/ B2-2

Three positioning rules to cut a brand above the rest

By Karen V. de Asis
Contributor



TWENTY-FIVE years ago, when Al Ries and Jack Trout, authors of "Positioning: The Battle For Your Mind," began to talk about the concept of positioning, the business world began to take notice of the more serious, strategic side of marketing.

Before then, marketing was generally synonymous to advertising. To the novice, the marketer's challenge was simply to develop compelling copy driven by eye-catching visuals, beautiful sound, dramatic words and occasionally, the right tagline. Nonetheless, the more experienced marketers continued to stress the importance of a differentiating message which is why there emerged a number of successful brands in this era. Unfortunately, there was no concept that held together this strategic intent until the emergence of Ries and Trout's positioning. Thus, it was not surprising that before positioning became the buzzword, there were many more advertising materials that did not hold much teeth. Advertising was either simply just creative with not much content and had a litany of promises or the message was not relevant to the target market.

Ries and Trout's discovery of positioning brought concrete form to the strategic nature of marketing. The authors postulate, "Positioning is what you do to the mind of prospects." Both claim, "It is an organic system for finding a window in the mind."

Over time, positioning has helped craft a brand's direction using the following rules:

Rule One: Keep the message simple and clear. Consumers, regardless of demographic background, are faced with daily information overload from various traditional and new forms of media that include the Internet, wireless applications, multimedia, etc.

Information is just far too many to remember. Likewise, time is too precious to dwell on esoteric messages even if these were meant to be engaging. It is no wonder that consumers today continue to remember Volvo's value proposition of safety or Domino's pizza's "good hot pizza delivered in 30 minutes," long after the brand has dropped the line when a tragic accident with a motorcycle rider beating the delivery deadline led to a costly litigation.

Locally, Jollibee continues to enjoy strong recall with the line, "Bee Happy," not entirely for its witticism but largely because its simple and clear message sums up memories of fun and enjoyment with the family.

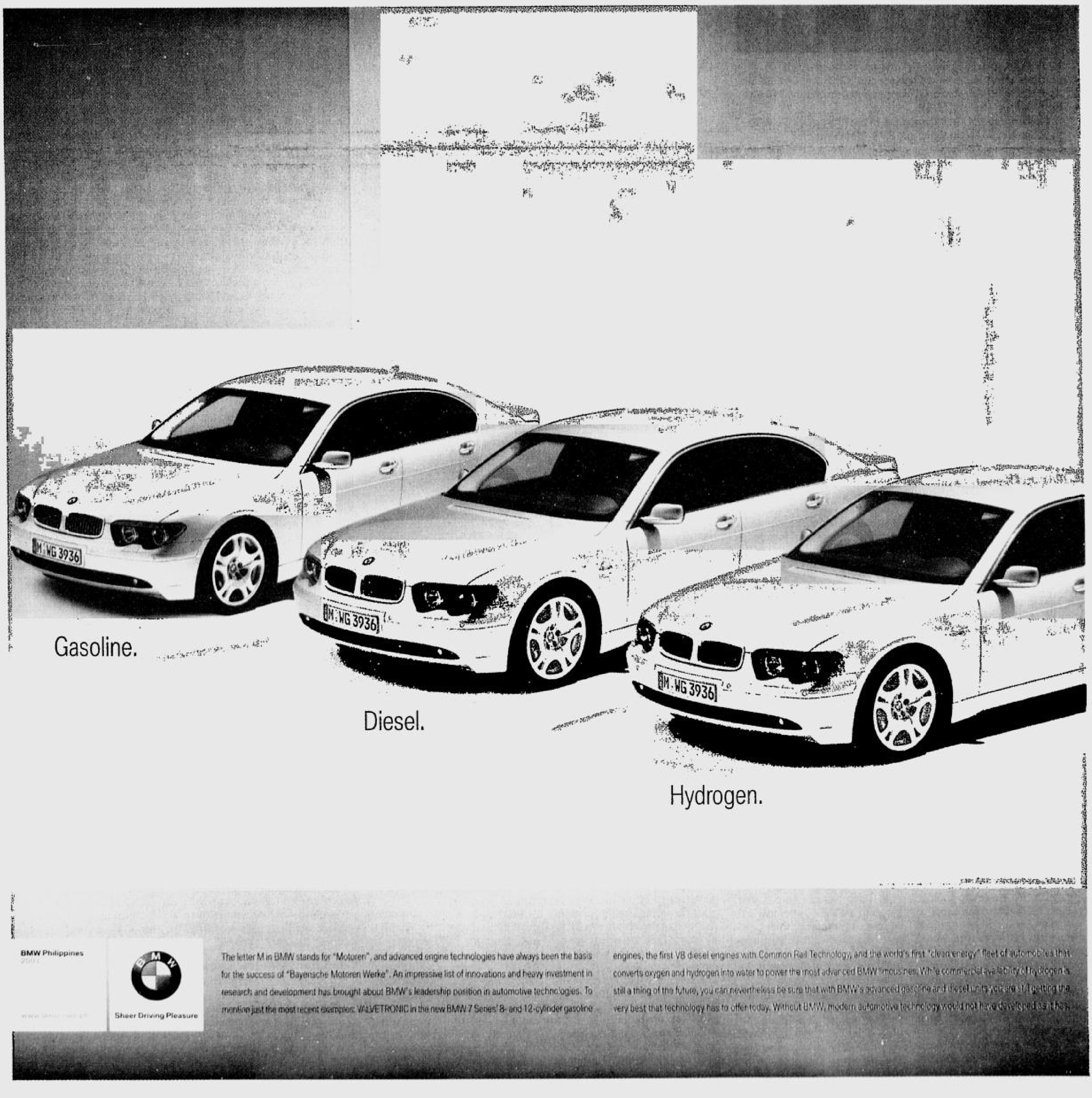
Rule Two: Focus. Positioning is grounded on a business reality that not all markets can be served by one brand. Thus, the discipline demands a careful study and profiling of the most profitable segment to tap considering the company's present available resources. However, this does not preclude the company to expand into new market segments in the future.

Haagen-Dazs, despite being a late entrant in the ice cream market, built its brand with a focused positioning as the "world's most indulgent ice cream" targeted for high-end consumers with a natural urge to splurge.

Mazda Miata has found its niche among the many sedans with its positioning, "Mazda Miata. The sporty convertible."

Rule Three: Relevance. Emphasize a meaningful, relevant message. There is a natural tendency among marketers to draw a long list of the product's benefits and allow each individual consumer to decide which among these benefits are important to them. This way, a number of messages are sent across the market leading to confusion. This

THREE/ B2-2



BMW Philippines

The letter M in BMW stands for "Motoren", and advanced engine technologies have always been the basis for the success of "Bayerische Motoren Werke". An impressive list of innovations and heavy investment in research and development has brought about BMW's leadership position in automotive technologies. To mention just the most recent examples: VALVETRONIC in the new BMW 7 Series' 8- and 12-cylinder gasoline engines, the first V8 diesel engines with Common Rail Technology, and the world's first "clean energy" fleet of automobiles that converts oxygen and hydrogen into water to power the most advanced BMW limousines. While commercial availability of hydrogen is still a thing of the future, you can nevertheless be sure that with BMW's advanced gasoline and diesel units you are still getting the very best that technology has to offer today. Without BMW, modern automotive technology would not have developed as it has.

Three positioning rules to craft a brand well

From page B2-1

method contradicts Ries and Trout's positioning concept where the marketer aided by marketing research discovers and identifies the most important benefit for the consumer, takes action to own the value proposition and relate it back to the consumer.

Identifying a meaningfully relevant positioning is an investment-driven but insightful business process that requires the marketer to study carefully the changes in the macro-environment as well as discover and validate insights with the end-user. Wise marketers tailor their single-minded message to their market's needs, trends and today's consumers.

An interesting universal research among baby boomers born 1946 to 1964 indicate their affinity to brands that remind them of their youth or brands that build their self-esteem.

Clairol has anchored on this learning with a meaningfully relevant message, "You're not getting older, you're getting better by Clairol Shampoo."

Another important change in the macro-environment is the people's increasing acceptance of brands that deliver a health-related value proposition.

C-Lium©Fibre® is beginning to make its mark among the local upper income bracket who suffer from constipation and irregular bowel movement but want a shift to a non-chemical dependent, healthy lifestyle. The value proposition remains "C-Lium©Fibre®, a completely natural and organic diet fiber made from 100-percent psyllium husks that is a natural remedy for constipation and digestive problems.

The brand recognizes a first mover positioning anchored on psyllium husks.

Another brand, Farm Pride, a regional brand of processed meat marketed in the Calabarzon, uses the line "Total Control Quality. The fresh taste of quality meats from farm to plate."

The rules of positioning seem easy to apply. But it requires tremendous discipline among marketers and businessmen to do so. Ironically, this is how a brand can become a cut above the rest.

(The author is a marketing trainer and professor of Marketing Management and Brand Management at the De La Salle Professional School's Graduate School of Business. Email at kdeasis@skyinet.net.)

PILIPINAS Shell Petroleum Corp. is one of the strategic partners of the 2nd Annual Conference of CEOs and Directors in Asia: Managing Corporate GOvernance in Asia on June 5 to 6 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

Country chair of Shell Companies in the Philippines Eliseo R. Santiago (second from right) and RVR-AIM Center for Corporate Social Responsibility executive director Felipe B. Alfonso seal the partnership with Options Information Company chair Ashok Nath and Pilipinas Shell VP Benito Bernardo.

Into consumer's heart: Pinoy's buying pattern

From page B2-1

He points out that Filipinos' buying patterns may be based on an underlying cultural frame of mind that influences their purchasing preferences. Understanding this cultural framework enables marketers to get into the heart of their customers. And this is a very powerful tool in promoting and selling a product.

Emotional Pinoy

According to Jocano, Filipinos are peculiar in that their basis for buying something is not logical or reasonable, but intuitive and even sentimental.

"This is because Filipinos are emotional. Our basis of evaluation, expression and cognition are emotional rather than empirical. We seldom think with the 'mind-logic.' We often use the 'heart-logic,'" he explains.

By understanding this key aspect, Jocano says that marketers can develop strategies that will click with Filipino consumers. He observes that Filipinos are attracted or repelled by a facial expression, a simple gesture or comment. Salespersons—whether direct sellers, department store attendants or *sari-sari* store vendors—should take note that their appearance and demeanor are crucial in clinching a purchase.

First impressions are also very important. In his research on Filipino consumers' evaluative scoring, Jocano has observed that there are three things that Filipinos look for in a salesperson.

First, the salesperson must be neat and clean. "If he does not even wash his face, (you would think) that he also handles his products that way," says Jocano.

Second, the salesperson must speak gently and politely.

Third, he must be well-mannered—"*Hindi bastos, hindi barumbado.*"

The way a salesperson deals with the customer also plays an important role. Filipinos are very sensitive and may base their decisions on whether they like the person they are dealing with.

"*Ang Pinoy, gusto ang maasikaso.* (Pinoys want someone who looks after them.) Your product may be very good, but I can always buy it from someone else. I buy it from you not because it is affordable or because (of whatever benefits it claims to perform) but because I like you. It is therefore very important for a marketing person, a salesperson, to establish rapport with his customer. Once that is established, *kampante ka na*. Then the product becomes acceptable," Jocano explains.

Sensitivity

Sensitivity to appearance and demeanor is unique to Asian culture, Jocano points out. Western developers will likely not input a salesperson's facial expression and manner of speaking in their product studies and analyses of customer satisfaction because these are not empirical and cannot be quantified as data. The marketing strategies that they develop tend to follow a standard formula that may or may not jive with Filipino sensibilities.

Jocano therefore advises marketers to modify their strategies according to the target market's culture, values and perceptions. "If we want to succeed, let us always keep in mind the cultural context and the local lifestyle of the people we are selling to, who happen to be Filipino," he adds.

In fact, he encourages marketers to use their target market's culture in promoting their products. "Use the culture positively. Don't use it negatively. Let us highlight what is the best in Filipino culture."

Jocano will share his insights gathered from more than 45 years of research in a lecture entitled "Filipino Marketing Style: Why Filipinos Behave The Way They Behave." (For inquiries on NMC, call 813-0466)

Guild lists best of RP advertising

By Roger Pe
Contributor

HOW far has Philippine advertising creativity improved? Will our best print, radio and television ads measure up with the rest of the region? Can we now compete on a global scale and be finally ranked alongside Thailand, Japan and Singapore as one of Asia's creative powderkegs?

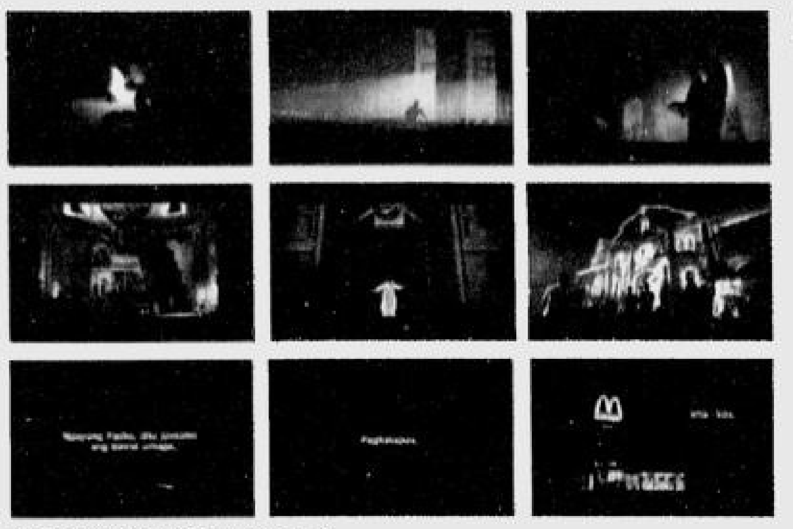
On May 6, 2003 at Onstage in Greenbelt, the Creative Guild, the 4As' (Association of Accredited Advertising Agencies of the Philippines) award-giving body, will mount its 18th annual awards night to honor the country's best ads for the year 2002.

Original. Relevant. Has impact.

These are the stuff that great ads are made of and what the Guild is exactly looking for. Fresh, distinct and never been seen before. Not ripped-off from someone else's work. They are something that the consumers can relate to, are meaningful to their needs and not created with the award judges as target audience. They rise above the clutter, jolt and endear you.

With the Guild's bountiful harvest this year, hopes are high for the Philippines to at least match its record-breaking feat last year. That a truly Philippine-conceptualized and executed ad will finally bag that elusive Clio gold and even make a dent in snobbish Cannes, One Show or D&AD.

Chosen only by award-winning creative directors of the industry during bi-monthly judgings, the following represent the best of Philippine advertising for the past year.



MCDONALD'S Christmas ad

Television ads

January—Nestle Yogurt; "Pants," Ogilvy & Mather

February—Kitkat "Shadow," Lowe

March—D.O.T. "Dash," BBDO-Guerrero Ortega; Globe "Punk Girl," McCann-Erickson

April—McDonald's "Dada," Leo Burnett

May—No Winner

June—Joy Tissue "Origami," J. Walter Thompson

July—STI "Boss," McCann-Erickson

August—CMC Spaghetti "Edward," Lowe

September—Sony "Delivery," McCann-Erickson

October—Jollibee "Kuya Ruben," Basic; Star Margarine, "Chinese Garter," Saatchi & Saatchi

November—Astring-Osol "Ticket," Campaigns & Grey; Fita "Best Friend," Lowe; McDonald's "Opening," Leo Burnett; Star margarine "Communion," Saatchi & Saatchi

December—Ad Foundation, "French," TBWA; Globe "Great," McCann-Erickson; Pop Cola "Sexy Siksik," Jimenez D'Arcy

Radio ads

January—No Winner

February—Max's "Kanta," Lowe

March—No Winner

April—No Winner

May—No Winner

June—Actara "Panalangin," TBWA/Santiago, Mangada & Puno

July—Edsamail "Announcer," BBDO-Guerrero-Ortega

September—7-11 "Gutom," Publicis-AMA

October—Aboitiz "Capiz," Leo Burnett; Strepcof "Gloria," McCann-Erickson; Shell "Muscle Pain," J. Walter Thompson

November—AMA "Boobs," Campaigns & Grey

December—Greenbelt "Varieties," Saatchi & Saatchi

Print ads

January—No Winner

February—No Winner

March—Smart "Lent," Saatchi & Saatchi

April—Bayfresh "Shower," BBDO-Guerrero-Ortega

May—Manila Peninsula, "Indian Festival," Saatchi & Saatchi

June—Bayfresh, "Ashtray," BBDo-Guerrero-Ortega; Axion "Paper Plate," DYR-Alcantara

July—Ford Escape "Wire," J. Walter Thompson

August—Bayfresh "Sock," BBDO-Guerrero-Ortega; Manila Peninsula, "Computer," Saatchi & Saatchi

September—DOT.Ph "Starbucks," BBDO-Guerrero-Ortega

October—Human "Jeans Sale," BBDO-Guerrero-Ortega

November—Enfagrow "Gate," Jimenez D'Arcy; Max's "Chicken Sandwich," Saatchi & Saatchi; Adidas "Calendar," TBWA/Santiago, Mangada; Opel "Slow Down," McCann-Erickson; Pepsi "Straw," BBDO-Guerrero-Ortega

December—Dove "Scratch & Sniff," Ogilvy & Mather; Sony "Jukebox," McCann-Erickson; Tide "Inside Out," Leo Burnett; Manila Peninsula "Drum," Saatchi & Saatchi

(The author is the outgoing president of the Creative Guild of the Philippines. Lilit Reyes of Leo Burnett is the incoming president.)

Tax incentives under the SPV Act of 2002

By Herminigildo G. Murakami Jr.
SGV & Co.

TAX-FILES

THE SPECIAL Purpose Vehicle (SPV) Act of 2002, which was enacted into law last Dec. 23, 2002, is said to be the knight in shining armor that will rescue the Philippines' ailing financial sector.

Whether the law will live up to this lofty expectation remains to be seen. But there is no doubt that the tax incentives and fee privileges embodied in the law and its implementing rules and regulations will play a crucial role in helping the SPV Act live up to its promise.

What is an SPV

An SPV, under Republic Act No. 9182, is a stock corporation organized in accordance with the Corporation Code of the Philippines and the rules promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission. It has a minimum authorized capital stock of P500 million, a minimum subscribed capital stock of P125 million and a minimum paid-up capital of P31.25 million.

An SPV can be entirely owned by Filipinos or by foreigners. However, to acquire land, Philippine nationals must own at least 60 percent of the outstanding capital stock of the SPV.

In addition, financial institutions transferring assets are prohibited from possessing a claim of beneficial ownership of more than 5 percent in the transferee SPV. These financial institutions are not also allowed to have a direct or indirect management in the transferee SPV.

Activities of the SPV

Under RA 9182, the SPVs are allowed to perform the following business activities:

- Invest in, or acquire non-performing assets or NPAs of financial institutions;
- Engage third parties to manage, operate, collect and dispose of the NPAs acquired from financial institutions;
- Rent, lease, hire, pledge, mortgage, transfer, sell, exchange, secure, securitize, collect rents and profits, and other similar acts concerning NPAs acquired from financial institutions;
- In case of NPLs, to restructure debt, condone debt and undertake other restructuring related activities;
- Take, transfer shares or buy shares issued by the borrower for business reorganization or rehabilitation of the borrower and apply any other measures or restructuring techniques with the approval of the SEC;
- Enter into dacion en pago or payment in kind arrangements, foreclose judicially or extra-judicially and other forms of debts settlement involving NPLs; spend funds to renovate, improve, complete or alter its NPAs acquired from financial institutions;
- Issue equity or participation certificates or other forms of investment unit instruments or IUIs for managing, improving and disposing of its NPAs acquired from financial institutions;
- Borrow money and issue other instruments of indebtedness for the purpose of paying operational and administrative costs;
- Guarantee credit, accept or intervene for honor the bills of borrowers;
- Advance funds to borrowers where required by an acquired asset or any debt restructuring agreement or under any court order or rehabilitation plan; and
- Entrust to third parties asset servicing company, the collection and receipt of the debt payments for debts under debt restructuring of business reorganization, management and disposition assets of the SPV in accordance with the rules, procedures and conditions prescribed by the SEC or by the courts.

In the issuance of investment unit instruments or IUIs, the SPV is required to have a plan duly approved by the SEC before it can issue the IUIs.

Any person may acquire or hold IUIs in the SPV in the minimum amount of P10 million. An SPV is not authorized to acquire the IUIs of another SPV. Likewise, the parent, subsidiaries, affiliates or stockholders, directors, officers or any related interest of financial institutions selling assets to the SPV; or the subsidiaries, affiliates or stockholders, directors, officers or any related interest of the parent company of the said financial institutions are prohibited from acquiring or holding, directly or indirectly, the IUIs of the transferee SPV.

Terms defined

The NPAs refer to NPLs and real and other properties owned or acquired financial institutions or Ropoas as of June 30, 2002.

Non-performing loans or NPLs refer to loans and receivables such as mortgage loans, unsecured loans, consumption loans, trade receivables, lease receivables, credit card receivables and all registered and unregistered security and collateral instruments, including but not limited to, real estate mortgages, chattel mortgages, pledges, whose principal and/or interest have remained unpaid for at least 180 days after they have become past due.

Real and other properties owned or acquired by financial institutions or ROPOAs refer to real estate and other properties owned or acquired by financial institutions in settlement of loans and receivables, including real properties, shares of stocks, and chattels formerly constituting collaterals for secured loans, which have been acquired by way of dacion en pago or judicial or extra-judicial foreclosure or execution of judgment.

Investment unit instruments or IUIs are participation certificates, debt instruments or similar instruments issued by the SPV and subscribed by permitted investors pursuant to an approved plan, excluding those instruments issued by the SPV to the selling financial institutions as full or partial settlements of the non-performing assets transferred to it. The IUIs do not form part of the capital stock of the SPV.

Incentives under SPV law.

Under the SPV law, the transfer of NPAs from the financial institutions to the SPV and from the SPV to third parties, as well as the dacion en pago by the borrower or by a third party in favor of financial institutions or SPVs are exempt from paying either the documentary stamp tax, capital gains tax, creditable withholding tax, and value-added tax or gross receipts tax.

In addition, the transfers are subject to 50 percent of the applicable mortgage registration and transfer fees, as well as land registration fees.

Transfers of NPAs from the financial institutions or SPVs to individuals are likewise granted the tax exemptions and fee privileges for as long as the transaction involves the transfer of a single family residential unit ROPOA or NPL secured by a real estate mortgage on a residential unit and there is only one transaction per individual.

In addition to these tax exemptions and fee privileges, SPVs are granted 50 percent reduction in the filing fees for any closure related to any NPA that it acquired from financial institutions.

Also, SPVs infusing additional loans or capital to borrowers are exempted from income tax on the net interest income arising from new loans granted to borrowers, from documentary stamp tax and mortgage registration fees on any document evidencing the new loans and from documentary stamp tax on any document showing the capital infusion of the SPV to the borrower.

Moreover, the IUIs issued by the SPVs are not considered as deposit substitutes, hence, the interest income or yield derived by the holders/investors from the IUIs are not subject to a 20 percent final withholding tax.

As to the participating financial institutions, they are allowed to carry over as deduction from taxable income any loss incurred as a result of the transfer of NPAs for five consecutive taxable years immediately following the year of such loss.

Conditions for incentives

RA 9182 sets several conditions for the availment of the tax incentives and fee privileges. These conditions are summarized as follows:

- The application for the establishment and registration of the SPV should be filed with the SEC not more than 18 months after the approval of the implementing rules and regulations.
- Financial institutions transferring non-performing loans or NPLs to an SPV shall give prior notice to the borrowers of the NPLs and all persons holding prior encumbrances upon the assets mortgaged or pledged. The borrower and the financial institution shall be given 90 days upon receipt of notice to restructure or renegotiate the loan under such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by the borrower and the financial institution.
- The transfer of non-performing assets or NPAs from financial institutions to SPV shall be subject to prior certification of eligibility as NPA by the appropriate regulatory authority having jurisdiction over its operations.
- All sales or transfers of non-performing assets or NPAs to an SPV shall be in the nature of a true sale.
- After the sale or transfer of the non-performing loan or NPLs, the transferring financial institution shall inform the borrower in writing at the last known address of the fact of the sale or transfer of the NPLs.
- All sales or transfers of non-performing assets or NPAs from the financial institution to an SPV or transfers by way of dacion en pago by the borrower or by a third party to the financial institutions, should be undertaken within two years from the date of effectivity of the implementing rules and regulations.
- Properties acquired by an SPV from government financial institutions (GFIs) or government-owned-or-controlled corporations (GOCCs), which are devoted to socialized or low-cost housing, shall not be converted to other uses.
- All transfers from an SPV to a third party of non-performing assets or NPAs or transfers by way of dacion en pago by a borrower to the SPV, should be undertaken within five years from the date of acquisition by the SPV of the NPA.

RA 9182 took effect on Jan. 26, 2003. However, its implementation has to await the approval of the implementing rules and regulations by the Congressional Oversight Committee. The law mandates the SEC, in coordination with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the Department of Finance and the Bureau of Internal Revenue to draft and submit the implementing rules and regulations to the Congressional Oversight Committee within 60 days from effectivity of the law.

The Congressional Oversight Committee in turn is given 60 days from receipt of the draft implementing rules and regulations to review, revise and approve the rule.

Thus, until a second imprimatur from Congress is obtained in the form of an approved implementing rules and regulations, the incentives under RA 9182 would remain outside the realm of reality.

Putting fine art to advertising and advertising to fine art

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THERE are ads that fade from the viewers' memories almost as soon as the 30-second spot is over or as soon as they flip the page in the magazine.

Then there are ads that linger in people's consciousness because they strike a chord with people's emotions. Think Hallmark and Kodak moment commercials that have made many people teary-eyed.

Add to that list the Absolut advertising campaigns that may not have made people cry, but nevertheless found a place in the public's memory ever since the first ads so-called bottle ads came out in the '80s.

The Stockholm-based The Absolut Company is the brand owner and producer of Absolut vodka, the third largest international spirit in the world and available in 125 markets including the Philippines.

It rolled out its first ads in 1980 at the same time that the state-owned liquor company decided to export Absolut vodka. And it wanted its ads to be different.

So instead of banking on people's emotions to try to connect the target consumers, the Absolut campaign crafted by TBWA went for art.

In the process, it stretched the boundaries between the two distinct fields, putting fine art to advertising and advertising to fine art.

The first ad featured the distinctive shape of the Absolut vodka bottle with a halo and a simple line that says Absolute Perfection.

The ad remains an advertising force to reckon with more than 20 years later and Eva Kempe-Forsberg, Absolut vice president for marketing, says that it is because it captured Absolut's values of clarity, simplicity and perfection, and easily brought these across to the consumers.

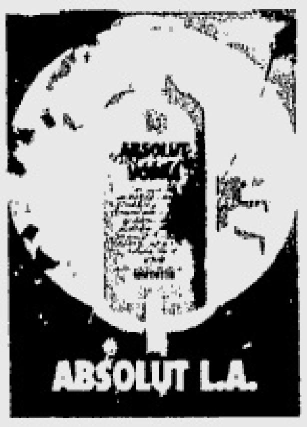
Hedberg says the Absolut campaigns have not deviated from these core values even as the bottle ads have evolved through the years.

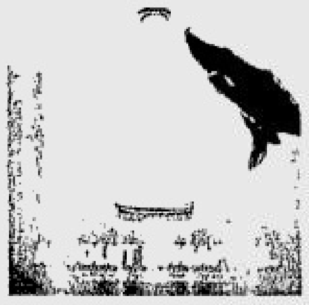
Absolut, for instance, commissioned renowned artists to render their own interpretations of the Absolut bottle.

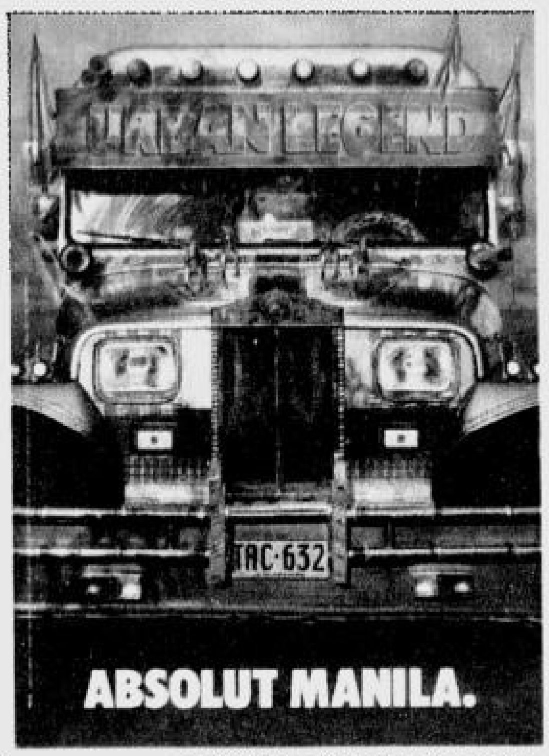
Artists that participated in the campaign included popular American artists Andy Warhol and Keith Harring, sculptor Arman, crystal glass designer Bertil Vallien and fashion designers David Cameron and John Galliano.

From the bottle ads, the Absolut Company mounted a new campaign that celebrates the cities in the world where Absolut is present.

The first city ad came out in 1987 which featured Los Angeles.







ABSOLUT NEW ORLEANS.

As in the previous campaign, the Absolut bottle was integrated in a subtle way to a distinct feature of the city that is recognizable both by the locals and the international community.

For the Los Angeles ad, TBWA featured a swimming pool in the Absolut bottle shape, standing for the California easy way of living.

Since then the Absolut bottle has appeared in many other cities in the US from Manhattan to Miami and in 1992, Absolut went to Europe then finally in 1999, Asian cities were featured starting with Sydney and Melbourne in Australia.

It was also in 1999 that the Absolut advertising campaign was listed among the top 10 best advertising campaigns of the past century by Advertising Age.

From Sydney and Melbourne, other Asian cities followed: Tokyo represented by local sushi, Bangkok with its traditional floating market, Taipei by the Dragon Dance for the Chinese New Year and in 2003, Manila made it to the list with its world-famous jeepney.

Hedberg says the common thread running across all the city ads is the insight to the country.

"What is important when we create ads is to have that international view but at the same time the ad should appeal to the locals. We try to go beyond the obvious and go a little deeper," Hedberg says.

For instance for Sydney, Absolut could have easily chosen to feature the Sydney opera house which is the image that most foreigners have of the city.

Absolut, however, decided to feature Sydney's beaches instead, which the locals love about their city.

The same goes for the other cities such as Rome, which did not feature other tourist places like the Vatican, but instead featured its typical motorcyles or Paris with the Eiffel tower, which gave way to the typical Art Noveau metro entrance.

"It is importance for us that the locals love the ad because we want to be part of the people. We exert a lot of effort to have that local insight," Hedberg says.

For Manila, Absolut chose the jeepney because it is a strong symbol for the country and the jeeps are close to the Filipinos' heart.

The design team used the front area of the jeepney where the radiator is to incorporate the outline of the bottle.

Hedberg says Absolut included Manila in the list of cities to celebrate its 10th year of operations in the country.

"The Philippines is an important market for us, and this is our tribute to the country and to its people," she says.

Ads heading to cell phones, mobile devices

CHICAGO—In the movie "Minority Report," a beer ad recognizes Tom Cruise's character as he walks by and calls out: "Hey, John, you look like you could use a Guinness."

That kind of future—where ads identify targets by scanning a person's retina—may be fictional and far off, but advertisers are hoping timely, personalized marketing messages to cell phones, handheld computers, and other wireless devices will capture consumers' attention.

Automakers are inviting users to test drive their latest models on mobile Web pages.

TV networks such as Fox Broadcasting are encouraging viewers of "reality" talent show "American Idol" to vote for their favorite rising superstar via short text messages on their cell phones.

The emerging medium is compelling because it costs a fraction of the price of a traditional campaign of similar scope, and it offers a relatively easy way to track who sees an ad and who acts on it.

"From what we can tell, we were very pleased with the results," said Richard Loomis, vice president advertising and marketing for Comedy Central, which recently advertised its program "Chappelle's Show" by sending text messages to its target audience.

"We're always looking for new and different ways to connect with our audience. Both the young guys and the urban African American audience, we know, are early adopters of wireless technologies." British research firm Ovum estimated in a report last year that global revenue from mobile advertising will reach $16 billion by 2006.

Sybase Inc. unit AvantGo said its advertisers see average response rates five to 10 times higher than a typical direct marketing campaign. AvantGo provides a service that allows users to download news and information—and ads—onto their personal digital assistants.

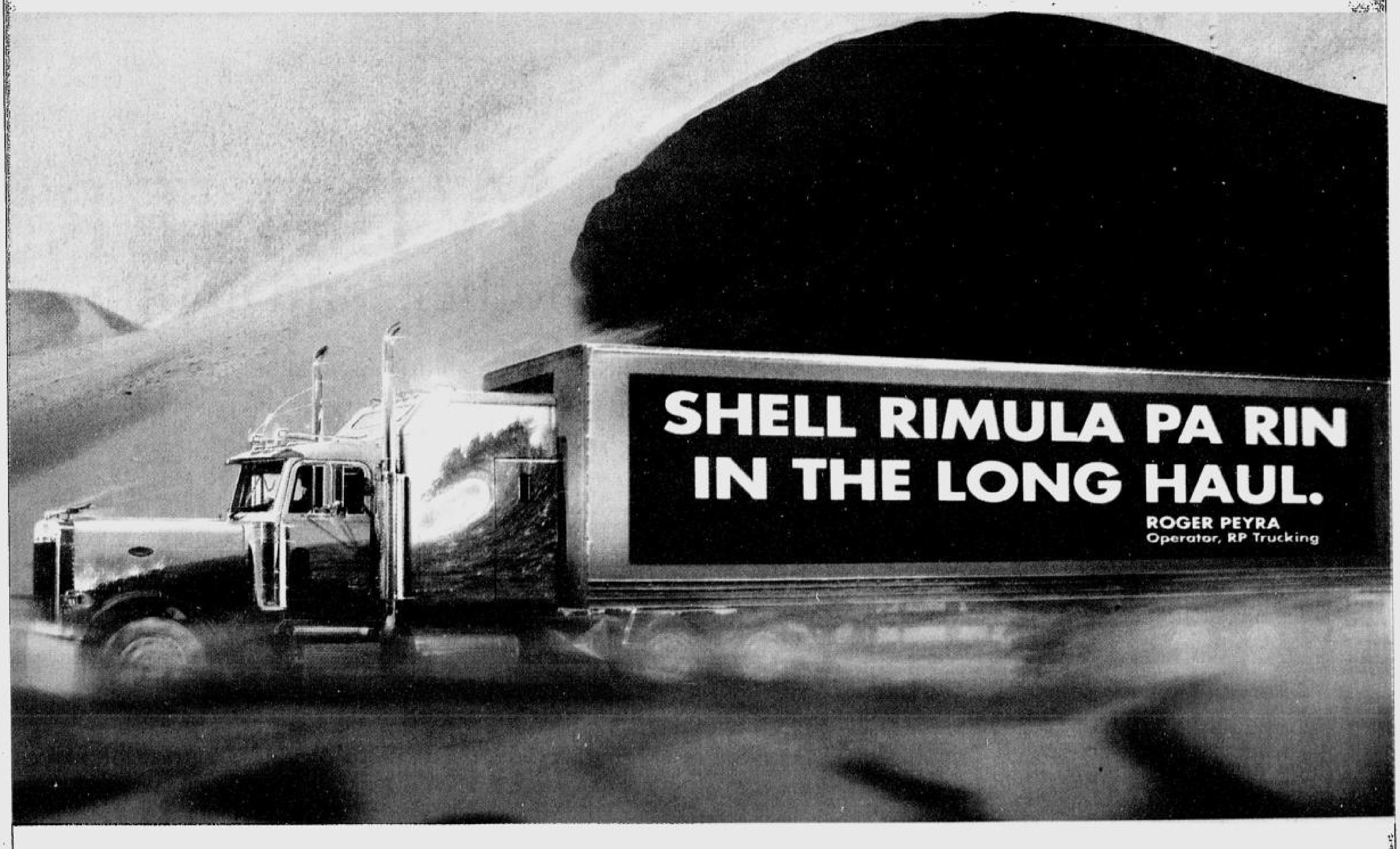
For advertisers, the allure of mobile marketing lies in the potential to target audiences in the right place at the right time as more and more cell phones and devices include Global Positioning System (GPS) location pinpointing technology.

The promise is that McDonald's, for example, could offer a coupon for free fries as a consumer walks past one of its restaurants.

However, the average person is already bombarded with dozens of advertising come-ons each day and the high-tech possibilities of personalized ads whenever and wherever you are could be even more annoying than telemarketers, experts say.

"Most people (on cell phones)... do not seem to want to be reached unless it's someone they want to be reached by," said David Doft, advertising and marketing services analyst for CIBC World Markets. "Companies would have to figure out how to make it relevant to their customer base to accept promotions."

Reuters

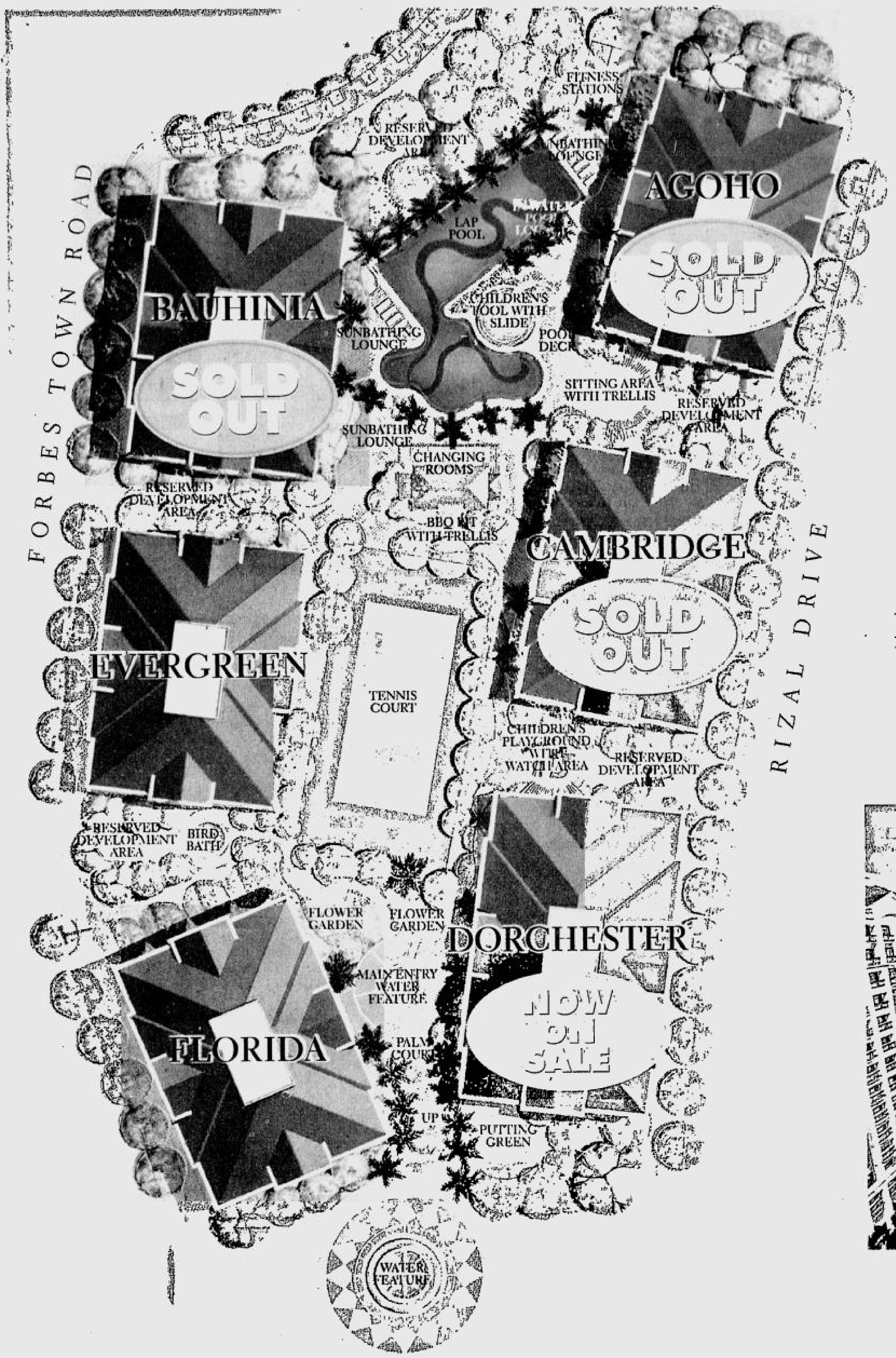


RIMULA
RIMULA
RIMULA
RIMULA

Shell Rimula, ang premium heavy duty oil na sadyang gawa para sa diesel engine. Tamang-tama ang lapot kaya kayang abutin at protektahan hanggang kaloob-looban ng makina. Siguradong malakas ang hatak! Subok na sa kargahan to any point in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. Kaya walang kakaba-kaba. Alam mong aabot ka at garantisado ang kita. Sige, subukan mo!

Shell Rimula. For longer oil life. Longer engine life.

Best for:


FORBES TOWN ROAD
RIZAL DRIVE
FITNESS STATIONS
RESERVED DEVELOPMENT AREA
SUNBATHING LOUNGE
AGOHO
SOLD OUT
LAP POOL
CHILDREN'S POOL WITH SLIDE
POOL DECK
BAUHINIA
SOLD OUT
SUNBATHING LOUNGE
SITTING AREA WITH TRELLIS
RESERVED DEVELOPMENT AREA
SUNBATHING LOUNGE
CHANGING ROOMS
RESERVED DEVELOPMENT AREA
BBQ PIT WITH TRELLIS
CAMBRIDGE
SOLD OUT
EVERGREEN
TENNIS COURT
CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND WITH WATCH AREA
RESERVED DEVELOPMENT AREA
RESERVED DEVELOPMENT AREA
BIRD BATH
FLOWER GARDEN
FLOWER GARDEN
DORCHESTER
MAIN ENTRY WATER FEATURE
NOW ON SALE
FLORIDA
PALM COURT
UP
PUTTING GREEN
WATER FEATURE

FORBESWOOD HEIGHTS

LUXURY GARDEN RESIDENCES

Come Home to Paradise.

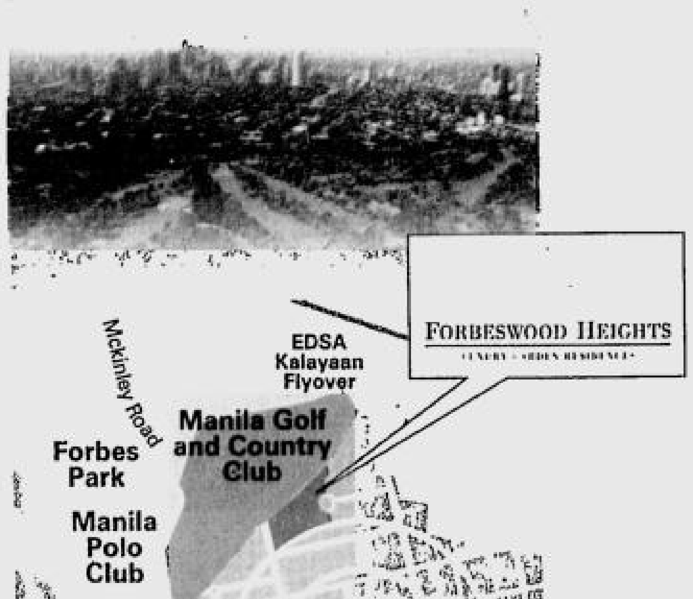
ONE WINNER

after another...and another.

AGOHO, BAUHINIA AND CAMBRIDGE TOWERS SOLD OUT.
RESERVE YOUR HOME AT THE NEWLY OPENED DORCHESTER TOWER NOW.
STRICTLY FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.

Smell the flower-scented air. Feel the cool, refreshing breeze. Hear the children's laughter. Things are different here at Forbeswood Heights, where life is a paradise that revolves around an expansive central park lavished with greenery and amenities for endless recreation. Right at your feet are well-sculpted lawns, trellised promenades, blooming gardens, a putting green, bird bath and themed playground for kids. You can try your hand at the tennis court or have a few laps at the swimming pool. And right next door is an exciting leisure stop along Forbes Town Road, where you can spend hours and hours dining, partying or even shopping. And where you can end the day with a glorious view of sunset over the Manila Golf Course.

Forbeswood Heights. Own a piece of paradise... now.


FORBESWOOD HEIGHTS
EDSA Kalayaan Flyover
Mckinley Road
Manila Golf and Country Club
Forbes Park
Manila Polo Club
BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY

SHOWROOM OPEN DAILY FROM 8:30 AM TO 7 PM.
FOR A VIEWING APPOINTMENT, CALL
867-8868 • 867-8888
HLURB LICENSE TO SELL NO. 06246

A Luxury Residential Development of:

BONIFACIO WEST
BONIFACIO WEST DEVELOPMENT CORP.

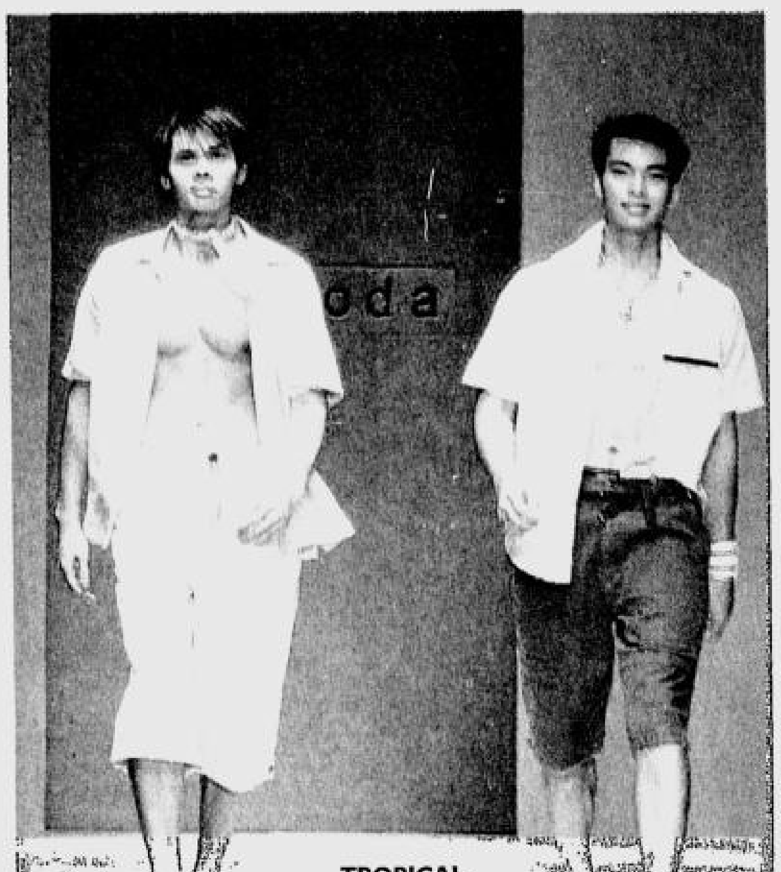
and

MEGAWORLD CORPORATION
www.megaworldcorp.com
ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

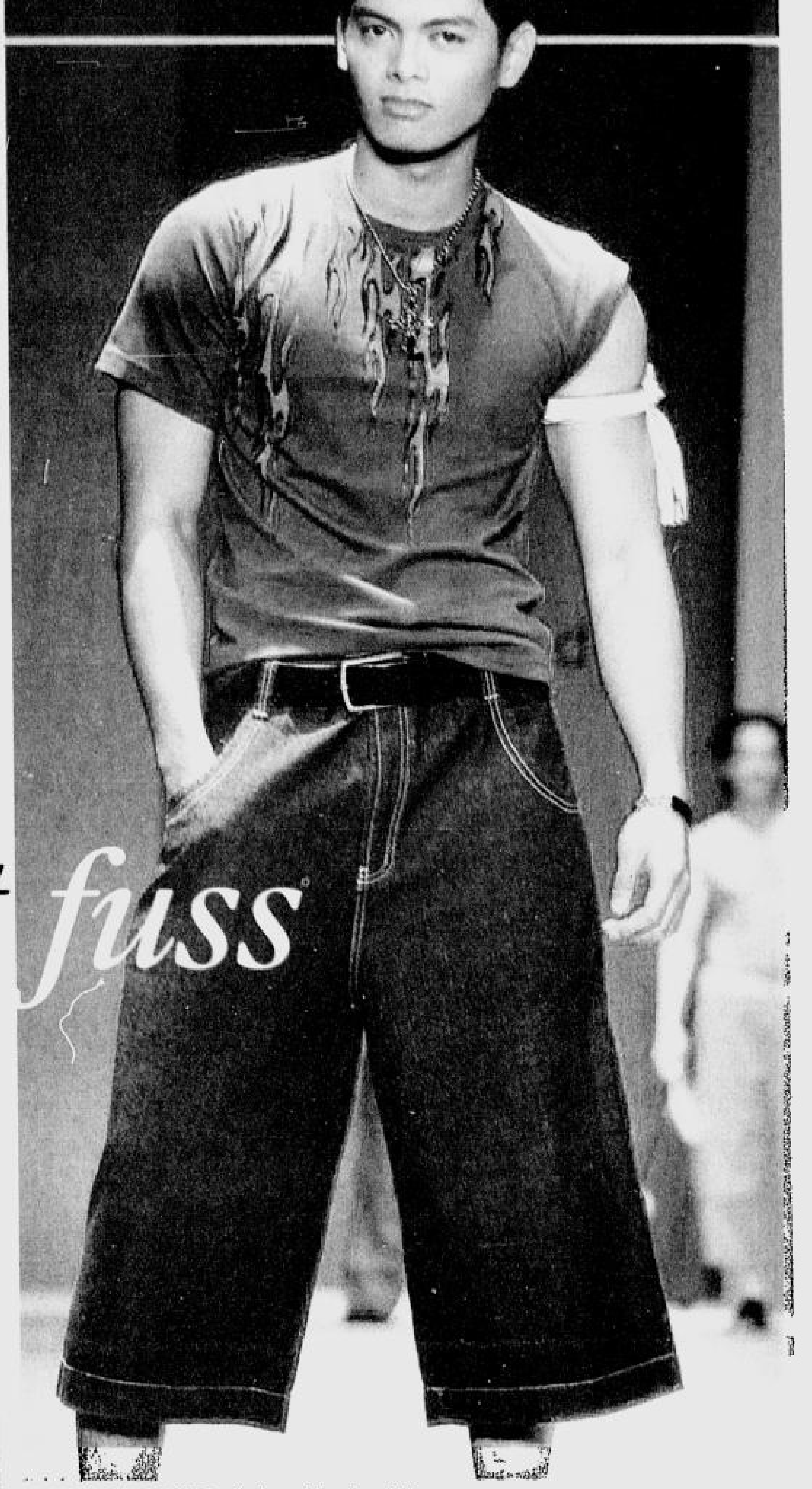
2/F The World Centre, 330 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City • Fax: (632) 867-8028 • E-mail: sales@megaworldcorp.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or ema
LIFESTYLE
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

FOR THE BUFFED ONLY: Tank T's and cut-offs.



TROPICAL STAPLES. Cropped pants and cotton shirts



BROWN AND BLUE? Radical combination of blue denims and chocolate brown works, thanks to orangey accents on the cotton knit top.

Fizz without fuss

Text by Alex Vergara and Jam Alindogan
Photos by Chito Vecina

At the recent Fashion Week Blue Soda and it's for-women-only counterpart Pink Soda, quenched the fashion thirst of RTW fans

PINK and Blue Soda have unveiled their respective collections composed of summer wearables spruced up with some of the most unlikely accessories, in colors as basic as white and taupe, to shades as radical as "ancient" orange.

Now on its 14th year, the clothing company was one of several top local and foreign brands that participated in the recent Philippine Fashion Week at the Glorietta Activity Area. A number of pieces in the ladies' line stood out. What we found more exciting, though, were the men's wear, especially the way they were spruced up and put together by the show's stylists.

Fringed belts and sashes matched with Capri pants cinched at the hem for men, striped knitted tops paired with berets and bonnets for women and, believe it or not, bohemian-inspired dresses and sleeveless tops accented with men's ties and net-like shawls that draped the hips, among other attention-grabbing accessories.

Wearable chic

The collection also featured striped knitted tops for her, "enzyme"-washed jeans for him and dresses made of light and comfortable materials fit for the sultry season. Colors ranged from various shades of blue—from indigo to turquoise—green, sand, camel and taupe.

"Actually, the concept of Pink Soda is the mixing and matching of the clothes. We designed clothes that are casual but chic. Clothes that Filipinos would actually wear," Jun Trinidad, Pink Soda's chief in-house designer said.

But as far as Blue Soda is concerned, summer's "official" color is ancient orange, a shade that's neither tangerine nor carrot, which was evident in the men's collection. It will take a confident man with loads of attitude to get away with the brand's garment-washed jersey and kaftan-like shirts. But wearable staples also abound in the form of linen shirts, canvas jeans and cropped denim and cargo pants.

Blue Soda's chief in-house designer Jonathan Alegre reinterpreted the classic checkered-print shirt through layering, thus giving it a trendier twist. Men will have no choice but to hit the gym if they want to give justice to the brand's mix of fitted, sleeveless shirts, hand-painted poplin tops and "ancient" denims.

Alegre also panders to the more mature market's penchant to look younger by using sun visors and handkerchiefs to rework otherwise basic pieces. For the more conservative man, the show also featured shirts and tees in earth colors such as beige, fatigue and brown.

Masculine

"Brown isn't only masculine but also goes with almost anything," said Alegre. "Our designs are edgy yet ideal for everyday wear."

I combined orange and black in shirts to add a certain degree of funkiness. Aside from ancient orange, we call our blue dark electric blue."

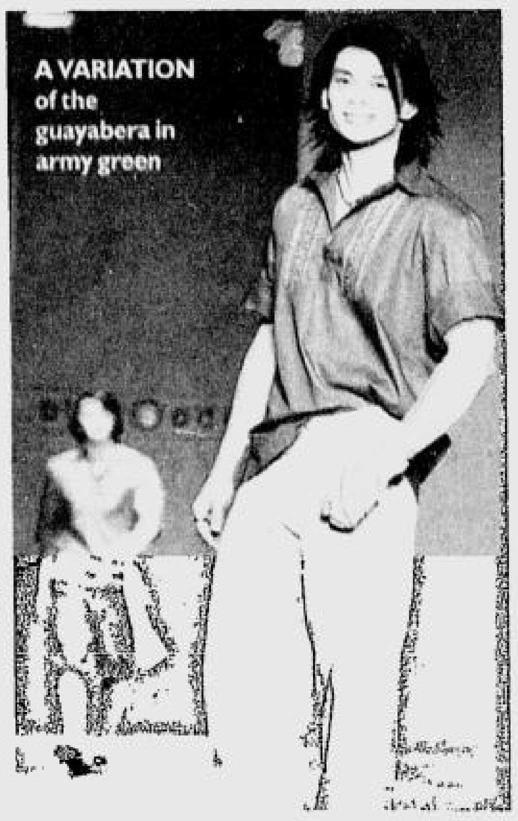
Both Trinidad and Alegre traveled and did their research abroad before coming up with their respective collections. The men's line may be a bit radical for conservative Fil- [illegible] tried to fuse fashion with practicality in his designs.

"We give emphasis to art, but Filipinos are now more open to radical designs," Trinidad added. "What makes our collections different from others is they're actually wearable. Our designs may be more daring, but we still keep an eye out for the basics."

The twin fashion show was a male event up to the very end. Temperatures rose as several hard bodies paraded on the ramp clad in either blue terrycloth bathrobes or bath towels during the finale. It didn't come as a surprise when the men later stripped to their skimpy white briefs before quickly exiting the ramp.

Hmmm, were those hot items—the underwear, we mean—for sale as well?

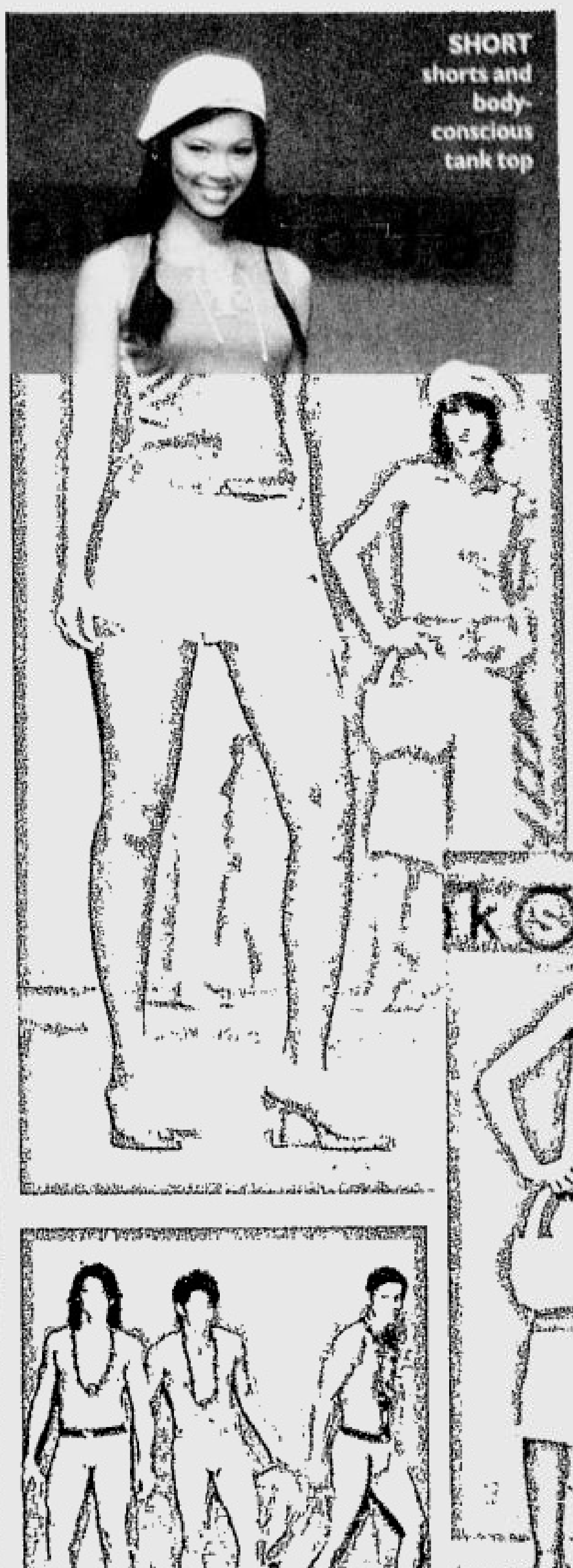
E-mail the authors at avergara@inquirer.com.ph



A VARIATION of the guayabera in army green

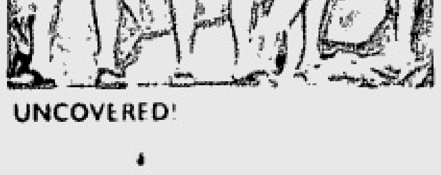
AUDREY Tan, Pink Soda's signature model and Rep. Miguel Zubiri's special girl, in basic cotton blouse and low-rise denims.

CROPPED pants and cotton knit top

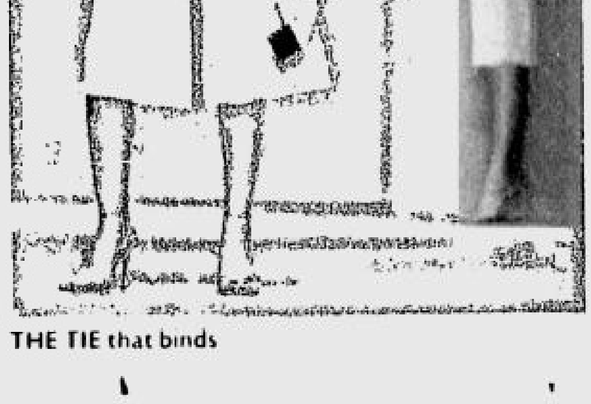


SHORT shorts and body-conscious tank top

PRINTED blue tee, cropped pants cinched at hem for a take on sweat pants.



UNCOVERED!

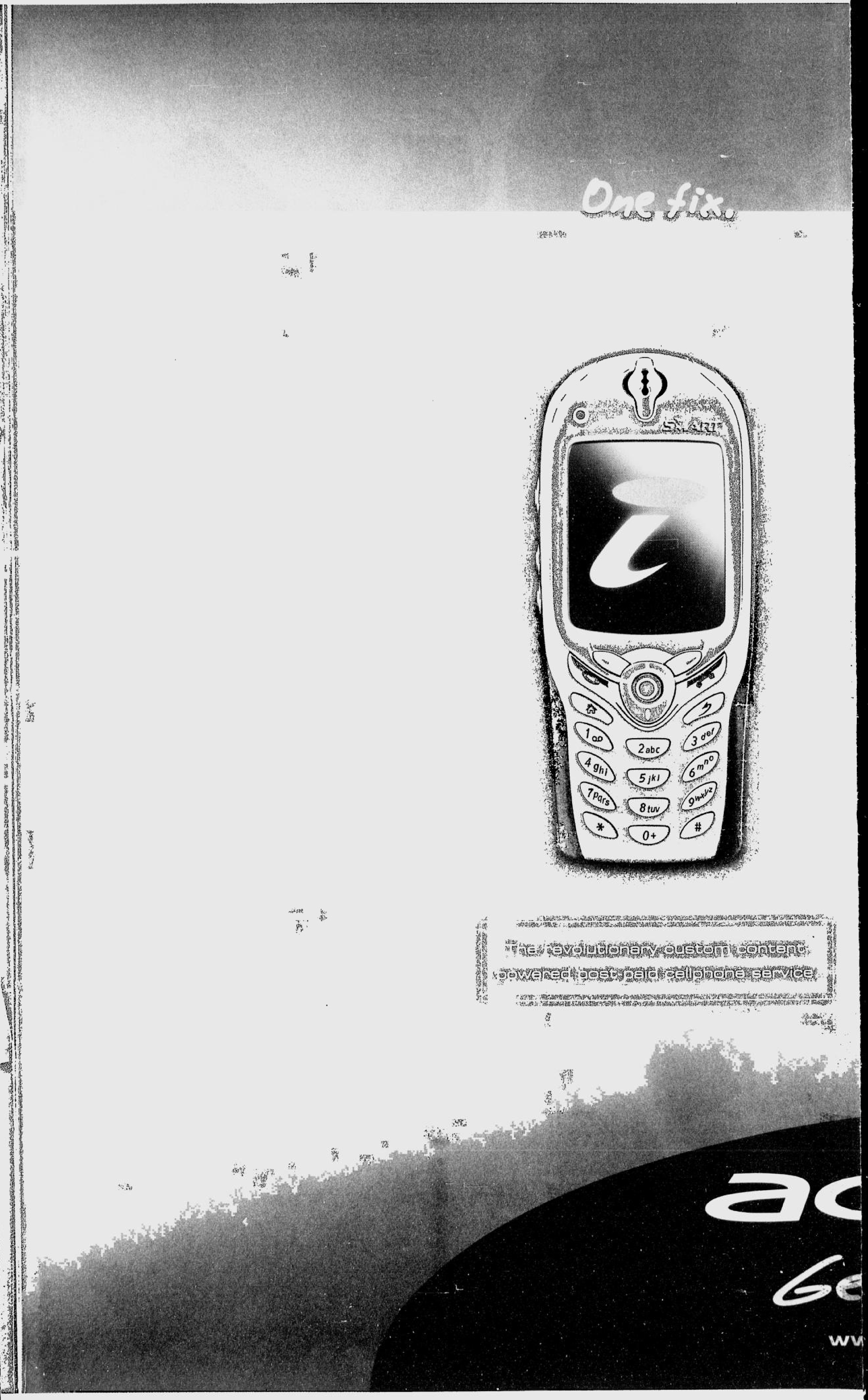


THE TIE that binds

Many addictions.
Rosanne Prieto
basketball addict
Paolo Trillo
music addict
Derek Ramsay
car addict
Katrina Tantoco
shopping addict

Greggy
gadget addict
Tessa
make-up addict
Dom
party addict
Mimi
tennis addict
Konrad
computer addict
Mikey
audio addict
Pia
diving addict
Wowie
fitness addict
Shy
video addict
Melissa
food addict
Mon
sports addict
Pia
love addict
Girlie
gym addict
Van
fashion addict
Jec
movie addict

Open to find your addiction.


One fix.
SHARP
The revolutionary custom content
powered post paid cellphone service
ac
Ge
ww

Rejoice. The ultimate fix has finally arrived.

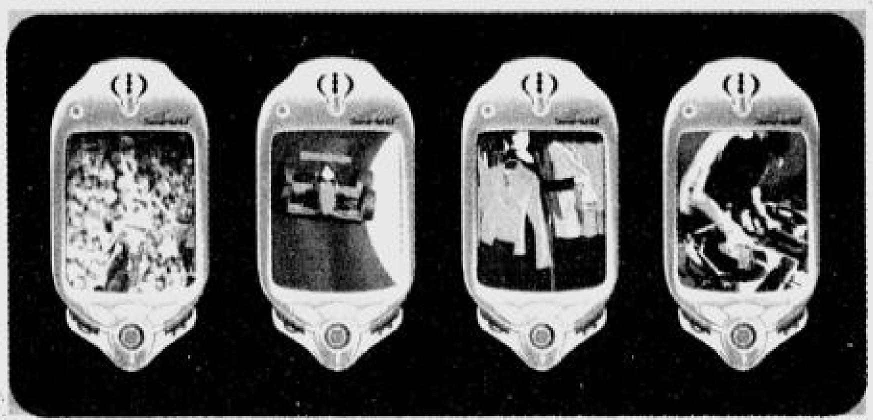
Introducing Addict Mobile.

The advanced multimedia-powered GSM service from SMART that takes your addictions past the edge and back -- on a sense-shattering thrill ride. Addict Mobile lets you receive instant custom content on news, sports, shopping, entertainment, health and fitness, travel and more with virtually no effort.

Just imagine it... Your needs. Your cravings. Your desires. Pushed directly to your mobile phone, minus the clutter from stuff you don't want!

Show me the goods.

Take a gander at the content Addict Mobile can push to you.



SPORTS • Basketball • NBA • PBA • UAAP • Football • Spanish Primera Liga • English Primeiere League • UEFA Champions League • Baseball • Motorsports • F1 • Superbike • Extreme Sports • Golf **HEALTH & FITNESS** • Pilates • Yoga • Weight Training • Cardiovascular • **FASHION & ENTERTAINMENT** • Dining •Events • Movies • Music • TV Schedules • **NEWS** • **TRAFFIC UPDATES** • **SEX & ROMANCE** • **JOB FINDER** • **TRAVEL** • **HARDWARE** • Cars • Audio and Video Equipment • Mobile Phones • Computers.• **CONSOLE GAMING** • Playstation • Xbox • Nintendo Gamecube

Addict Mobile's MMS Info on Demand service platform takes multimedia messaging to new heights – providing you with images, music, and sound clips for an immersive experience like no other! Mind you, what you see isn't even half of what the service can do, and you can bet there's even more on the way.

[illegible] mindblowing deal!

MMS Info on Demand for as low as **P5.00** per download!

Let's face it. Surfing via Mobile Internet is great, but why waste time and cash needlessly exploring for what you want? With Addict Mobile's MMS Info on Demand technology, you simply select your addictions, sit back, and let the system do the rest! From then on, Addict Mobile knows exactly what you want, and serves it to you straight up for as low as P5.00 per download! Compare that to what you'd spend if you had to look for the info yourself.

Customized to addiction.

Who says you can't have it your way? With Addict Mobile, you can!

Addict Mobile is fully customizable, giving you the freedom to create a service environment that's centered exclusively on your addictions. So if you're a basketball addict, you receive content like the latest game scores, news, schedules and highlights without the fuss! What's more, you can reconfigure your system settings anytime, granting you complete control over the content you can receive from Addict Mobile.

I want it now!

Amazed? Well, you haven't seen anything yet until you've seen Addict Mobile's great monthly plans:**

Every Addict Mobile plan includes free call minutes that are renewed every month!

addict	500	600	800	1335	1995	2665	3500
Monthly Service Fee	P500	P600	P800	P1,335	P1,995	P2,665	P3,500
FREE MINUTES*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

* Applicable only to Addict Mobile-to-SMART or Addict Mobile-to-Addict Mobile calls.

In addition to your Free Minutes, your Addict Mobile plan also includes a monthly Maximum Consumable allocation for SMS, MMS and GPRS usage! Now, you can let all your addictions take you even higher.

addict	500	600	800	1335	1995	2665	3500
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SMS Messaging	P1.00						
MMS Messaging	P5.00						
SMS Info On Demand	P2.50						
MMS Info On Demand	P5.00						
MMS Personalization	P15.00						
GPRS (per kb)	P0.25						

Your Maximum Consumable allocation allows you to send, access or download at no extra charge. Should you exceed your monthly allocation, you will be charged fees that correspond to the services you availed. A detailed breakdown of your availments will appear in your next billing statement.

Once you're high, there's no coming down.

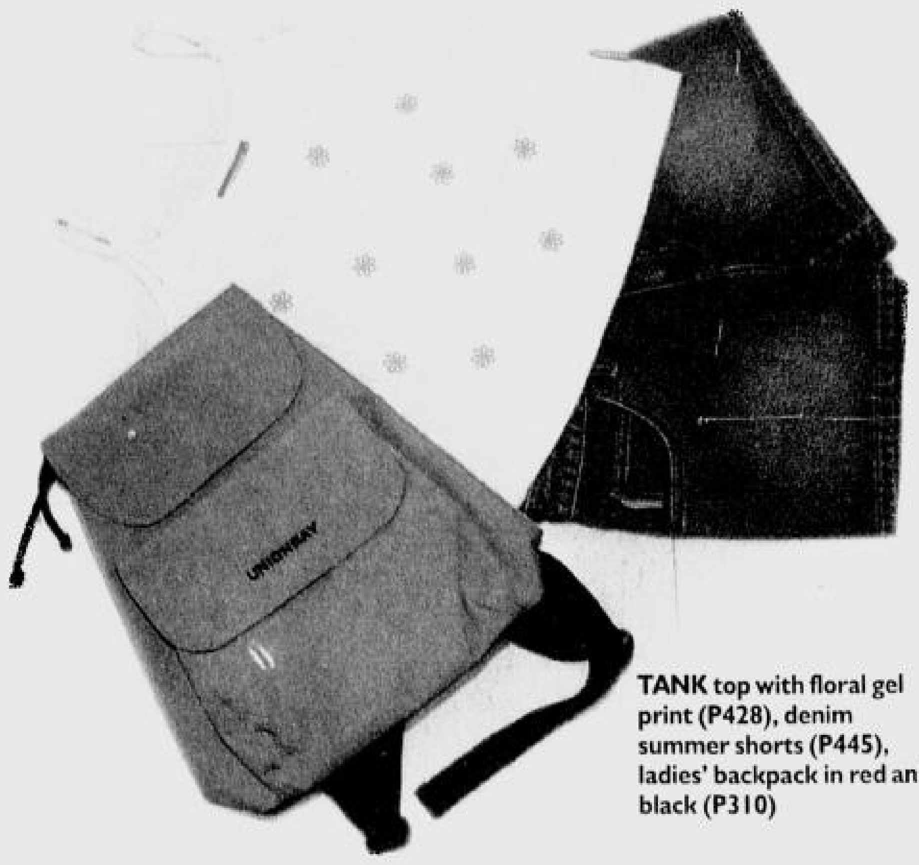
Addict Mobile knows exactly what you want, and gives you exactly what you need, utilizing the latest technological advancements to strengthen the bonds between you and your addictions. So while every mobile service talks about you getting in touch with others, only Addict Mobile encourages you to get in touch with yourself.

Addict Mobile: Get Hooked.

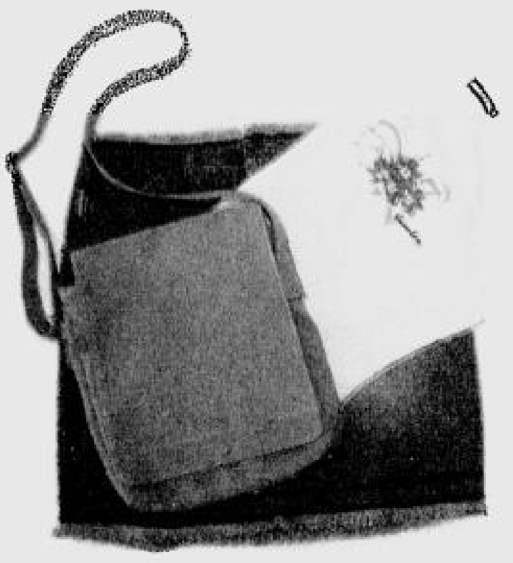
POWERED BY SMART

*Addict Mobile GSM is initially offered as a postpaid service only.

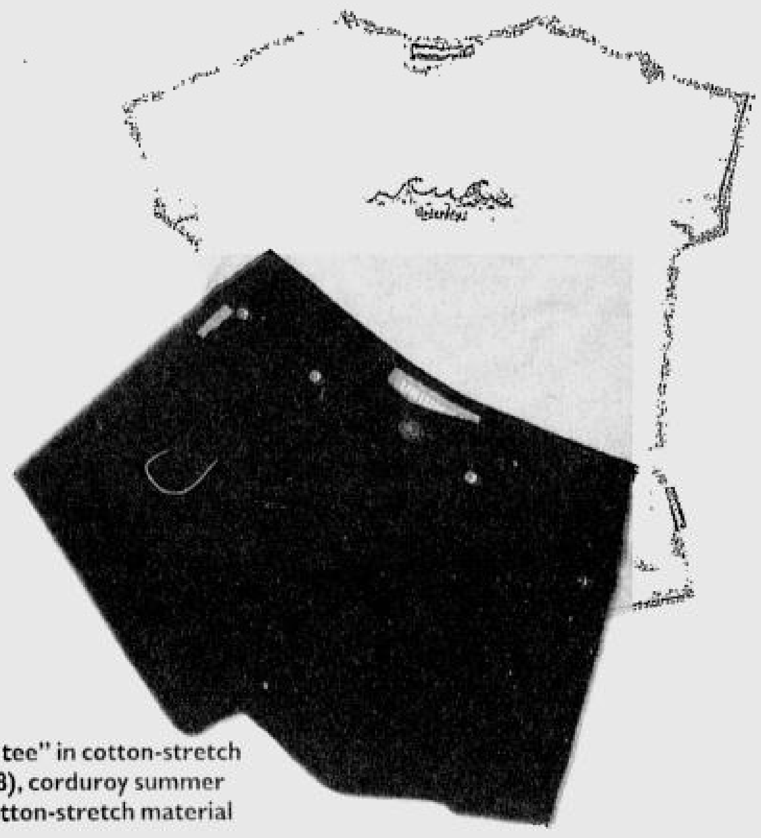
ddict GSM
MOBILE
t hooked.
ww.addictmobile.com



TANK top with floral gel print (P428), denim summer shorts (P445), ladies' backpack in red and black (P310)



SLEEVELESS tank top in cotton-stretch fabric (P398), denim skirt in vintage look with frayed hem (P405), messenger's bag in tan suede (P875).



"SURFERS tee" in cotton-stretch fabric (P448), corduroy summer shorts in cotton-stretch material (P788)

Union of style and sense

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Betoy Johnson

SO you love imported stuff, *looove* it so much that you've blown your entire kitty on a single piece of pricey imported clothing one time too many. You've braved flea markets—okay, *ukay-ukay*—just to have a piece of coveted designer togs, never mind if the clothes have been worn by complete strangers in other corners of the globe.

But, hey, we're not judging you. That can only mean you want a taste of the good life, and you like to stand out.

Now here's the deal. How about filling your wardrobe with "Stateside" goodies to your heart's content without going for broke? And how about doing this in the cool air-conditioned comforts of the mall? (Because the last thing you would want to do in this summer heat is to fight your way through the throngs of *ukay-ukay* shoppers, right?) Best thing is, the goodies in question are never-before-owned-or-used. Dream on, you say? Think again.

Hip Seattle, Washington-based label Unionbay has come to the Philippines to satiate your cravings for high-quality imported apparel.

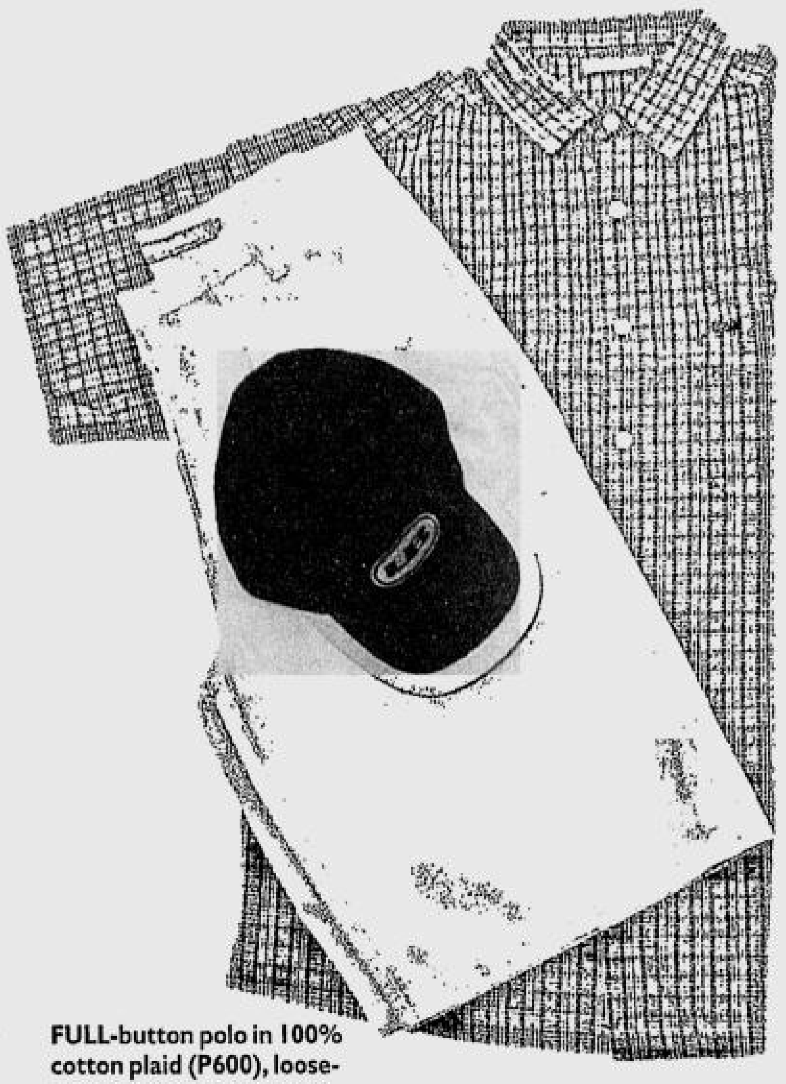
Unionbay brings with it the style and spirit of youth that has made it an American favorite for over two decades. And yes, it has left its dollar price tag in its home base so you won't feel intimidated about coming to its stores to try on the clothes. The only way to go from the dressing room is the checkout counter.

Its initial offering this summer is comprised of cool cottons, canvas, cords and denims. For girls, Unionbay has floral gel-print tanks and ruffled tops, sleeveless tees and collared shirts. Knowing girls nowadays can't live without several good pairs, it has quite a selection of low-rise jeans, with skirts in canvas and frayed-edge denims as great alternatives. Shorts go way up, up and up—best to show off those tanned, toned gams.

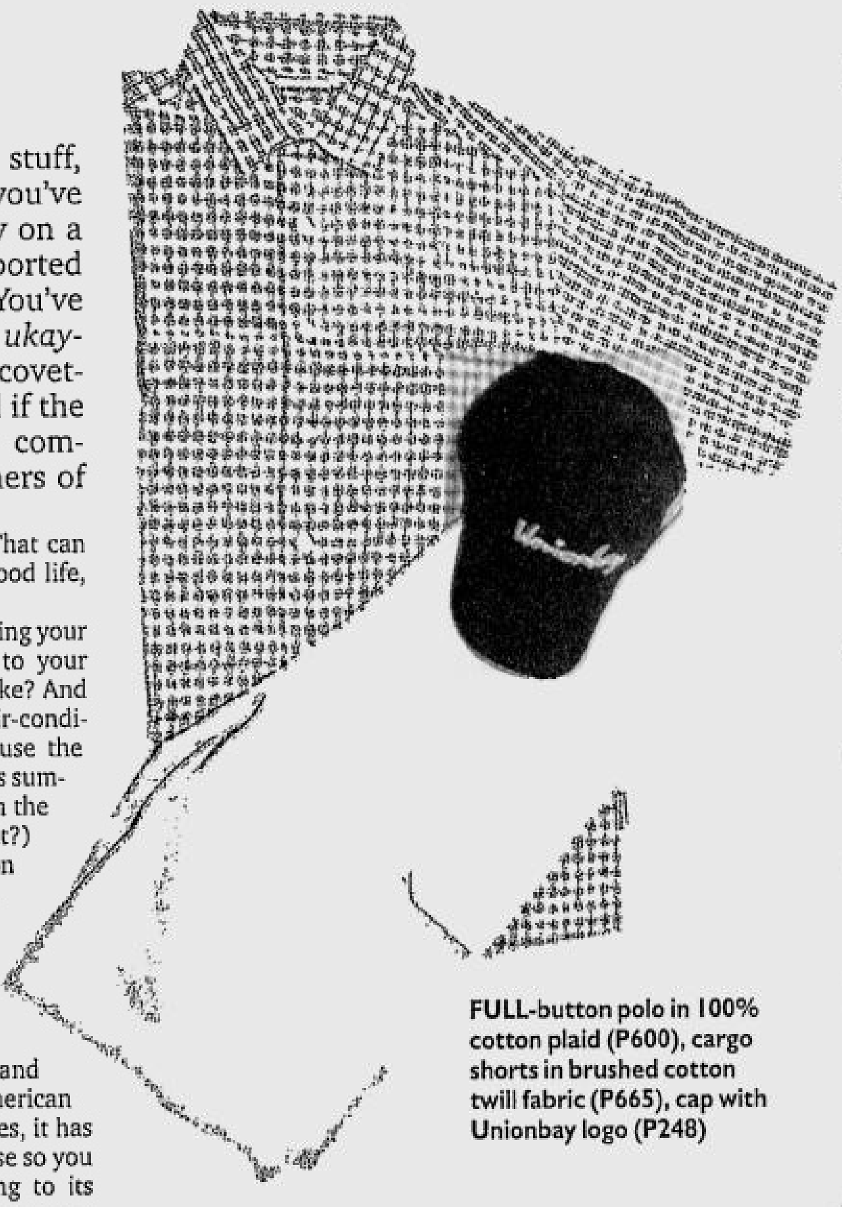
Logo-print cotton tees and roomy plaid shirts are the way to go for guys in this heat. There are denim jeans and cargo shorts with multiple pockets for those techie toys guys can't leave home without. Unionbay also has its own collection of accessories like bags, caps, socks and billfold to complement the clothes.

Forget about finding stuffy leather jackets or coats with fur trims like you would in the *ukay-ukay*. Not in this weather, you won't! At Unionbay, it's sensible dressing with the right amount of the now thrown in. And, sure, a taste of what your D.C. counterparts are wearing.

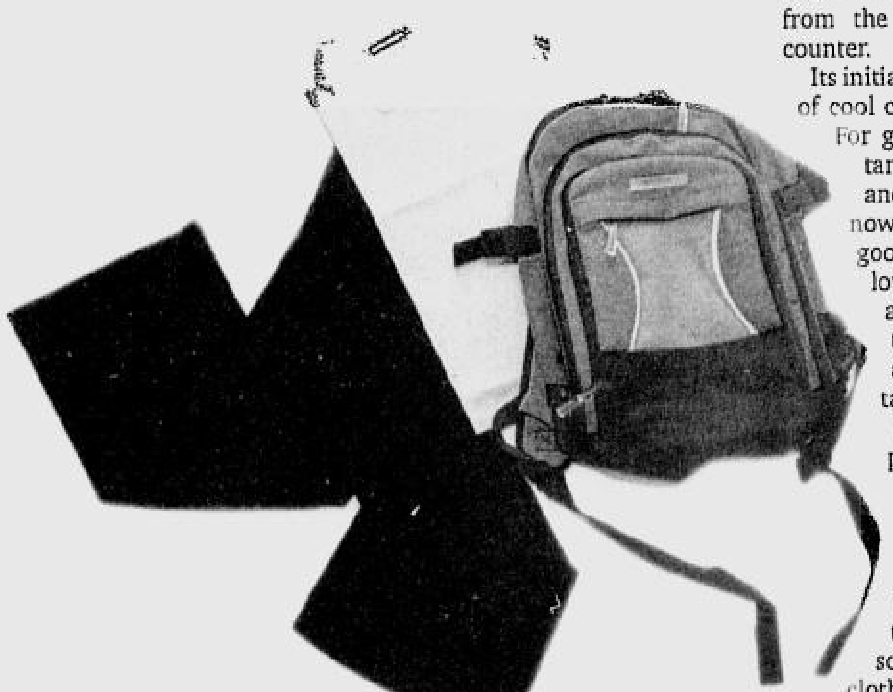
Unionbay is an imported brand, yes, but it doesn't come with the dollar price tag



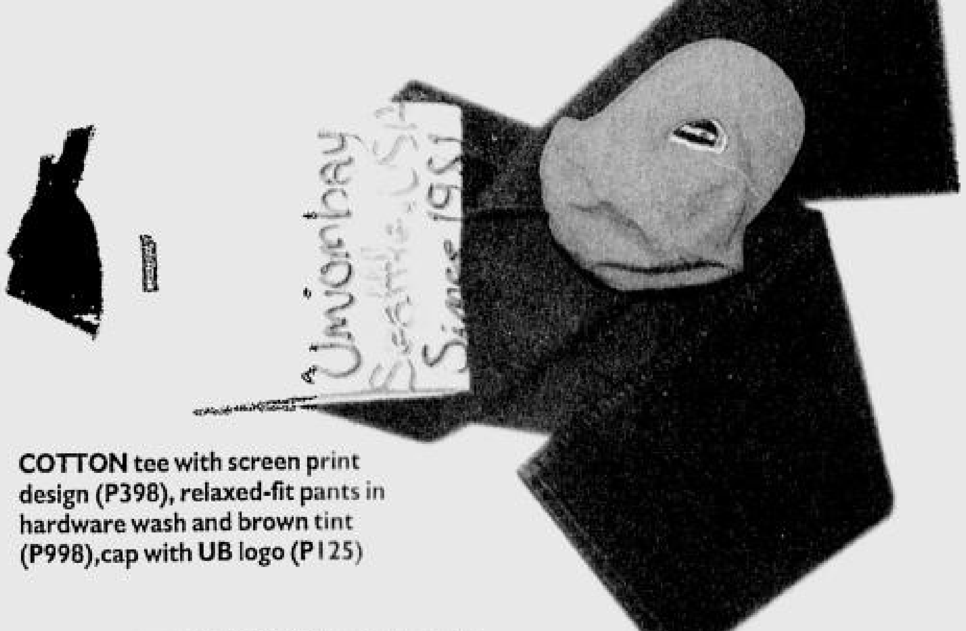
FULL-button polo in 100% cotton plaid (P600), loose-fit shorts in brushed cotton-twill fabric (P545), cap (P125)



FULL-button polo in 100% cotton plaid (P600), cargo shorts in brushed cotton twill fabric (P665), cap with Unionbay logo (P248)

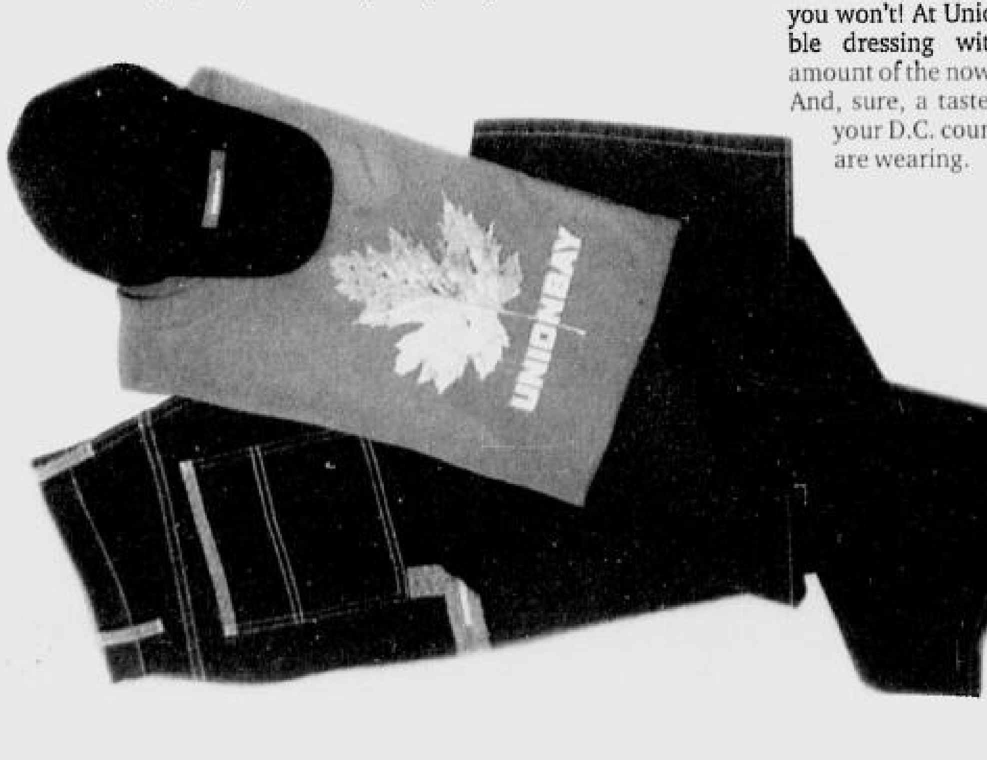


SLEEVELESS polo in lilac linen (P728), low-rise pants in corduroy-stretch fabric (P1,208), blue back pack (P808)

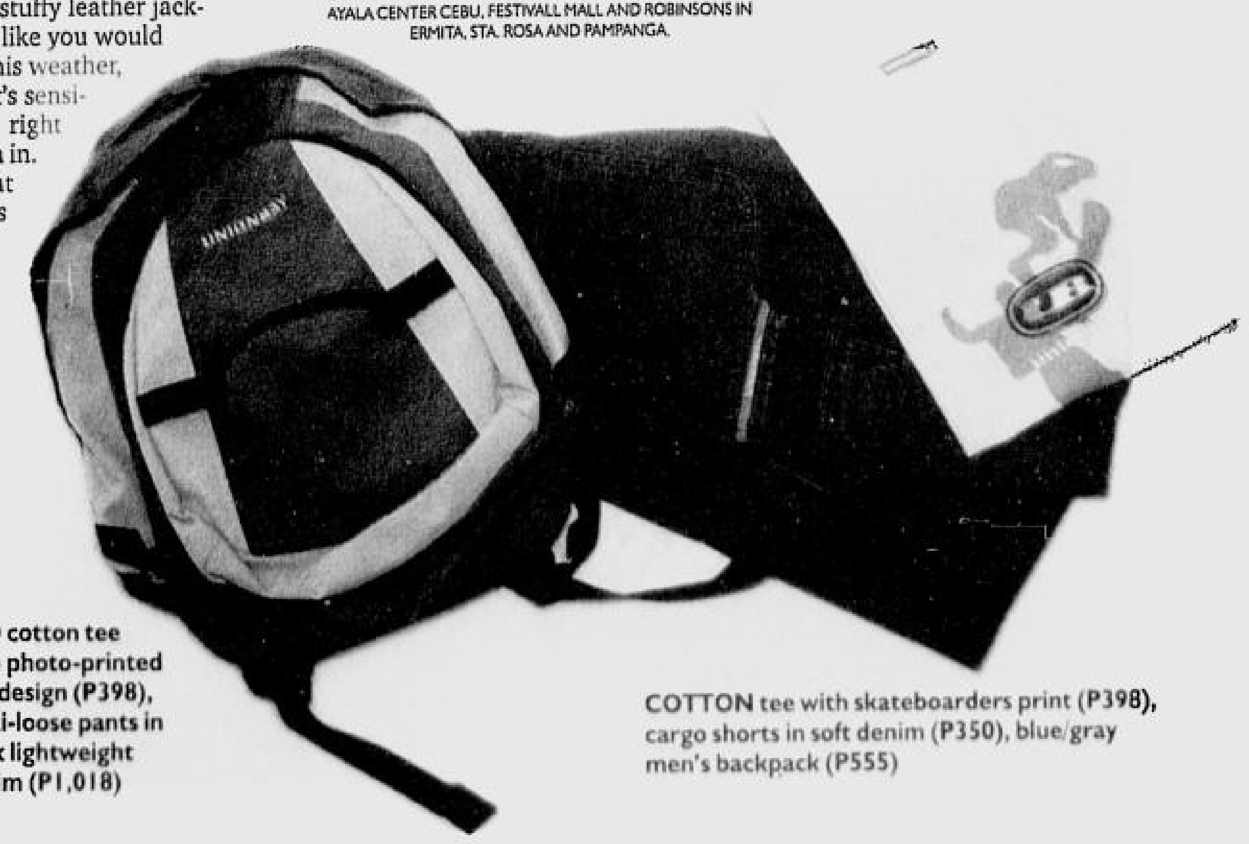


COTTON tee with screen print design (P398), relaxed-fit pants in hardware wash and brown tint (P998),cap with UB logo (P125)

UNIONBAY BOUTIQUES ARE AT THE SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL, FESTIVAL SUPERMALL AND ROBINSONS STARMILLS PAMPANGA, WITH OUTLETS AT ROYAL SPORTING HOUSE BRANCHES IN GLORIETTA 4, SHANGRI-LA, ISETANN RECTO, AYALA CENTER CEBU, FESTIVALL MALL AND ROBINSONS IN ERMITA, STA. ROSA AND PAMPANGA.



RED cotton tee with photo-printed leaf design (P398), maxi-loose pants in dark lightweight denim (P1,018)



COTTON tee with skateboarders print (P398), cargo shorts in soft denim (P350), blue/gray men's backpack (P555)

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Light and shadow, fabric and silhouette

Trend Spotting

RETRO IN THE METRO. Gregg Centeno's take on an Emmanuelle Mafille photo is a black brocade coatdress, with satin accents on the collar and the cuffs. Pillbox hat with oversized faux flowers is a throwback to the 50s.

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

FASHION will never pass off as art, perhaps not in another 100 years. Despite the great amount of time, effort and creativity put into it by every designer, purists will not accept fashion as art in the truest sense of the word.

So it's no wonder that even the late great Filipino designer Ramon Valera, who revolutionized Philippine fashion in the golden age of the 1950s, has yet to earn a place among the country's National Artists.

Valera's heirs and other great Filipino designers need not despair. They don't have an exclusive franchise to being discriminated against. Even the biggest names in European fashion haven't been spared.

Seasoned designer Lulu Tan Gan is well aware of this. "For some reason, fashion is considered by some people not as art, but at best a form of commercial art."

Untiring chair

Rather than wait for the long overdue recognition, which may never come at all, the indefatigable chair of the Fashion Designers' Council of the Philippines has something up her knitted sleeves. She recently teamed up with Frenchman Philippe Normand, director of Alliance Française, to organize a photo exhibit-cum-fashion event on May 2, 8 p.m., at the Greenbelt fountain area. The event is billed "Visions 01: Paris-Manille."

"This event is like no other," says Normand. "It's the first of its kind in Alliance Française's history in the Philippines, and probably in its counterparts elsewhere in the world. It won't be your usual fashion show, but it will be a fashion installation."

As the French government's cultural arm in the country, Alliance Française has been based in Manila since the 1920s.

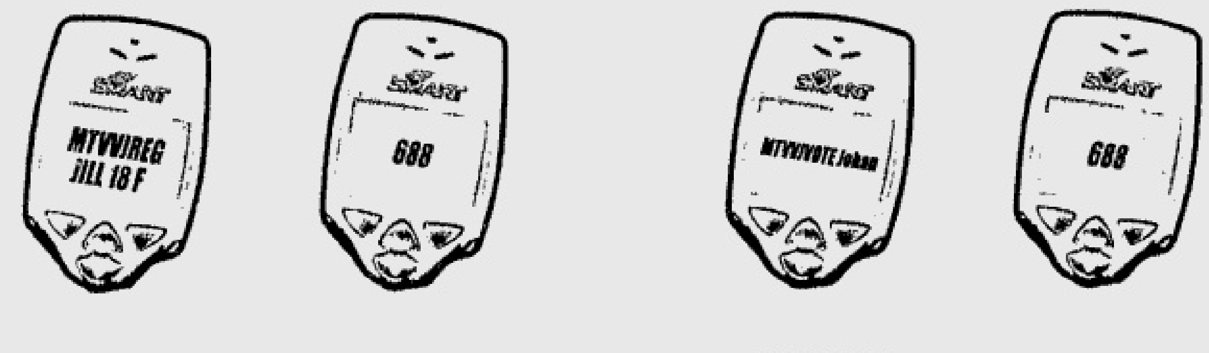
LIGHT/ D2

UNLAWFUL ENTRY. Jesus Lloren (inspired by Daniel Stier's photo) breaks the gender barrier with a "pantskirt" The earth-colored half skirt comes with slits and the single trouser leg is as straight as the man who wears it. For the first time in his modeling career, Paolo wears a pair of panty hose. "It feels weird," he says.

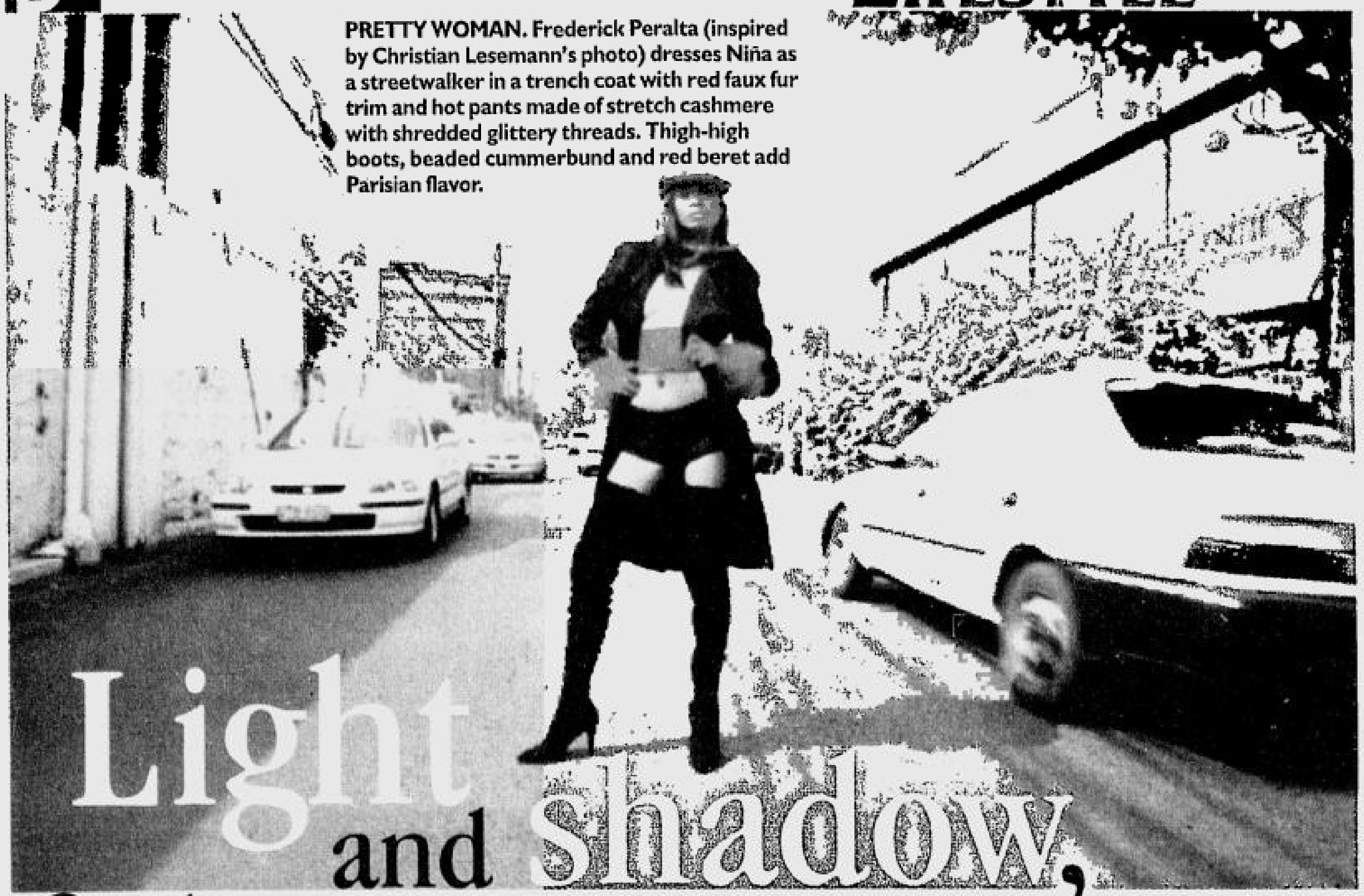
WHAT'S ON at Robinsons
HOT & COOL
The Hottest Looks This Summer
Summer Must-Haves From Your Favorite Brands
Color Forecast for the season
When Hot is Cool
HOT & COOL SUMMER FASHION SHOW
See the Miss Robinsons winners and finalists as they hit the ramp. Discover whats hot and hip, cool and hit this summer.
ROBINSONS Malls

Health & Beauty
The Blue Mountains
HEALTH • BEAUTY • RELAXATION
FACIALS FROM P250
Call 813 3831
About FACE
The skin and body care salon
UP TO 50% OFF ON ALL FACIAL SERVICES
☎373-5377
Just present this coupon
MERCURY FOOT SPA HEALTH CENTER
☎ 833-3337
FOOT SPA w/ CHINESE HERBAL MEDICINE & COMPLETE MASSAGE SERVICES
2nd Flr. 2112 Roxas Blvd. Nr. cor. Buendia Ave., Pasay City
YJC Beauty & Slim Center
SERVICES OFFERED:
• Slimming • Bust enlargement • Height increase
• Hair growth, falling hair, dandruff treatment • Pimple treatment
• Facial treatment • Open-pores treatment • Scar treatment
• Natural face & nose lifting • Eyebag, Eye wrinkle removal
• Face & body bleaching • Permanent eyebrow, eye liner, lip tattoo
• Permanent hair removal • Permanent eyelid (aliteye)
• Varicose vein treatment • Buttock contouring • Cheekbone reduction
• Strech mark treatment • Insomia treatment • DENTAL BRACES
FREE CONSULTATION!
YJC Beauty and Slim Center
[illegible]

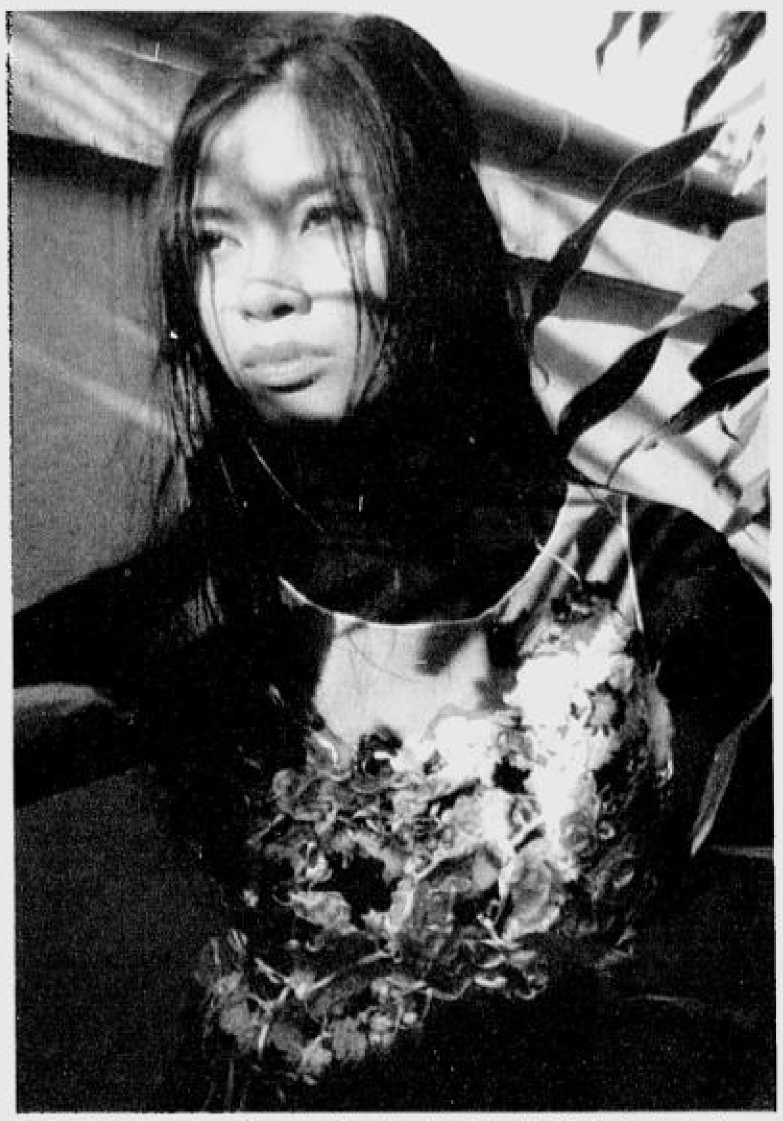
Vj Hunt 2003
MTV
VOTE NIÑO
VOTE JEFF
VOTE EDDIE
VOTE CHASE
VOTE TONI
VOTE PATTY
VOTE KIM
VOTE ALIYAH
VOTE KELLY
VOTE GREG
VOTE ALIA
VOTE REEMA
VOTE PATRICIA



SMART
Simply Amazing!
TAKE YOUR PICK.
You can help choose the next MTV VJ! Cast your vote through your Smart or Talk 'N Text Cellphone!
TO REGISTER
Type MTVVJREG<space><nickname><space><age><space><sex> and send to 688
TO VOTE
Type MTVVJVOTE<space><exact name of the VJ> and send to 688
For questions, comments or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation) or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.



PRETTY WOMAN. Frederick Peralta (inspired by Christian Lesemann's photo) dresses Niña as a streetwalker in a trench coat with red faux fur trim and hot pants made of stretch cashmere with shredded glittery threads. Thigh-high boots, beaded cummerbund and red beret add Parisian flavor.



FLEUR DE LIS. Arcy Gayatin (inspired by Camille Vivier's photo) designs a black stretched jersey dressed with a vest made of tulle and embroidered with strings and tiny ribbons.

Light and shadow, fabric and silhouette

From page D1

The exhibit will feature more than a dozen or so fashion photographs by eight France-based lensmen, such as Daniel Stier, Emmanuelle Mafille, François Rousseau and Camille Vivier, among others. The collection of photographs has been traveling the world over for several months now.

Radical element

Not content with the striking photos of models set against various urban backdrops, the duo added a radical element to the mix "to make the pictures come alive."

Tan Gan tapped colleagues in and out of FDCP and assigned them to draw inspiration from the clothes featured in a photo or two by a particular photographer.

How? By coming up with their respective takes—from the clothes down to the models' looks in the photographs. As if coming up with several pieces of clothes with a certain attitude weren't enough, the designers had to factor in the various cityscapes and the respective moods they evoke in the photographs.

"The concept of fashion and photography has evolved through the decades," says Tan Gan. "From the 1950s up until the last decade, the focus had been usually on the clothes and the mannequins who wore them. With the onset of the 21st century, however, a growing number of photographers has begun resorting to panoramic shots to capture the clothes as well as the background."

The show's director, Ariel Lozada, and its stylist, Michael Salientes, will do away with the de rigueur ramp for a good reason. To achieve a more "exhibit" feel, models in their deconstructed finery will mingle with the audience and pose next to the photos that inspired the clothes.

After a two-week run at the Greenbelt fountain area, the photographs will be moved to Alliance Française in Bel Air II, Makati. But why not hold the photo-fashion exhibit within an air-conditioned gallery or the ballroom of one of Manila's five-star hotels?

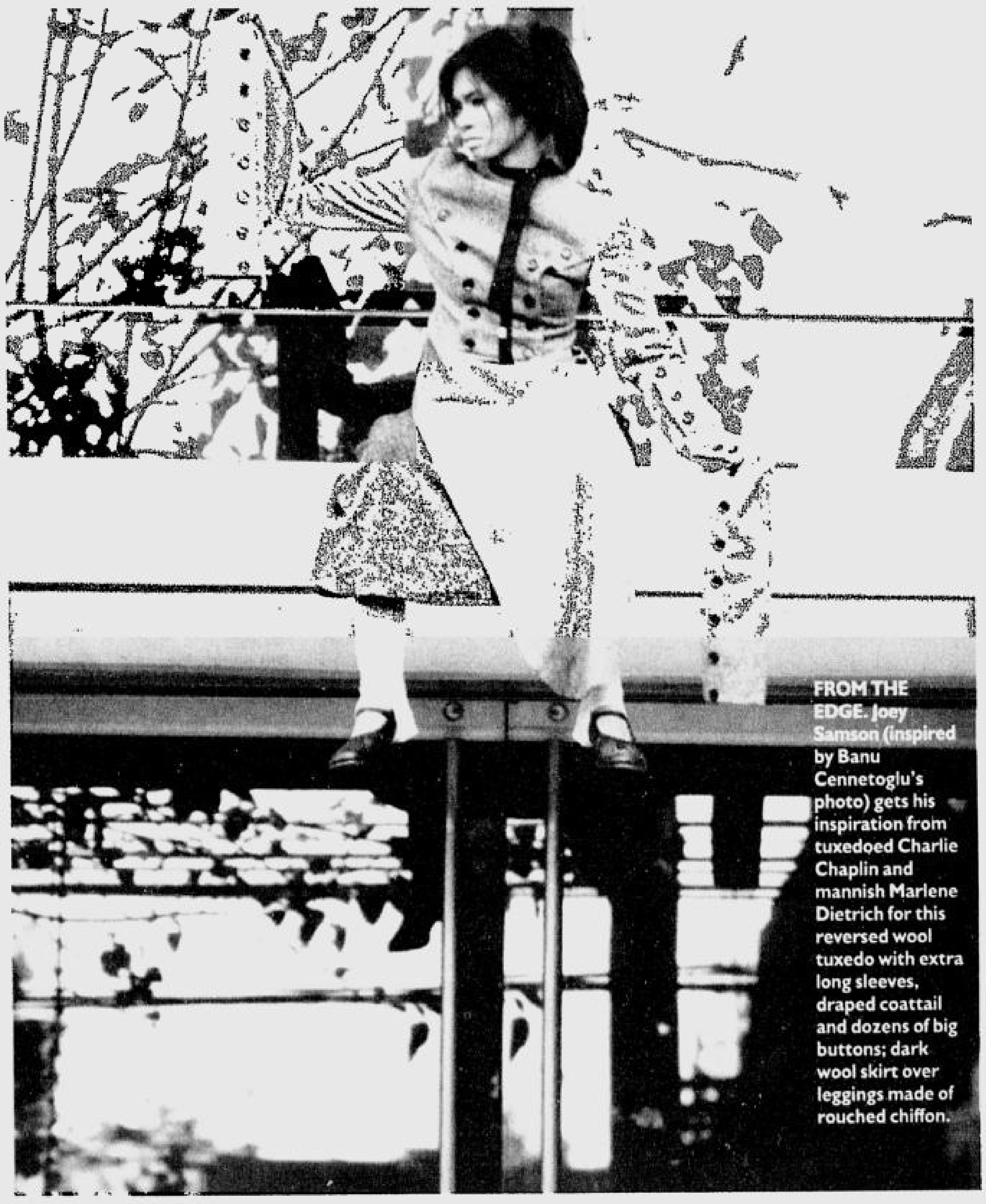
"Interest in the arts has hardly trickled down to the masses because most events are held in posh venues," says Tan Gan. "It's high time we stop making art exhibits elitist or high-brow events by staging them in more accessible venues free of charge. The Greenbelt fountain area is a perfect venue."

Tan Gan chose from a broad range of designers to make sure that the clothes wouldn't clash or cancel each other out. The group is a good mix of young and industry veterans with their respective styles and strengths: Jesus Lloren, Ivarluski Aseron, Joey Samson, Gregg Centeno, Frederick Peralta, Vittorio Barba, Arcy Gayatin and Mich Dulce.

"They're all my friends so you figure out which designer belongs to what decade," says Tan Gan, with a hearty laugh. "If anything, the clothes will celebrate the diversity of the designers as well as the diversity of the photographs." All in the name of pure and simple art.

For inquiries, call Alliance Française at 895-7441/895-7585

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph



FROM THE EDGE. Joey Samson (inspired by Banu Cennetoglu's photo) gets his inspiration from tuxedoed Charlie Chaplin and mannish Marlene Dietrich for this reversed wool tuxedo with extra long sleeves, draped coattail and dozens of big buttons; dark wool skirt over leggings made of rouched chiffon.

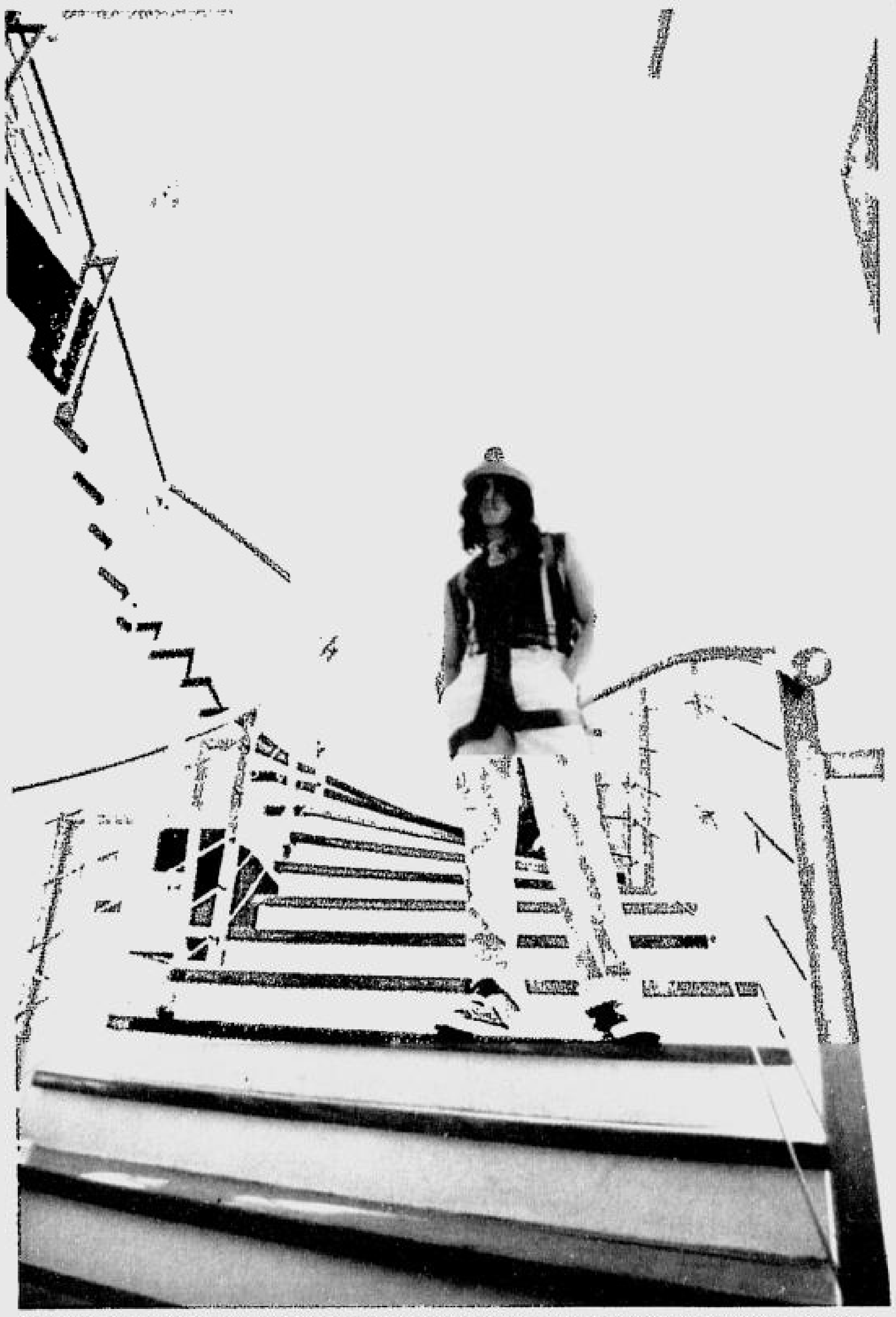
Knit queen Lulu Tan Gan and the Alliance Française are teaming up in an interactive exhibit of photographs and haute couture

CLOTHES:
JESUS LLOREN, IVARLUSKI ASERON,
JOEY SAMSON, GREGG CENTENO,
FREDERICK PERALTA, VITTORIO BARBA,
ARCY GAYATIN AND MICH DULCE

HAIR, MAKEUP AND STYLING:
CHECHEL JOSON

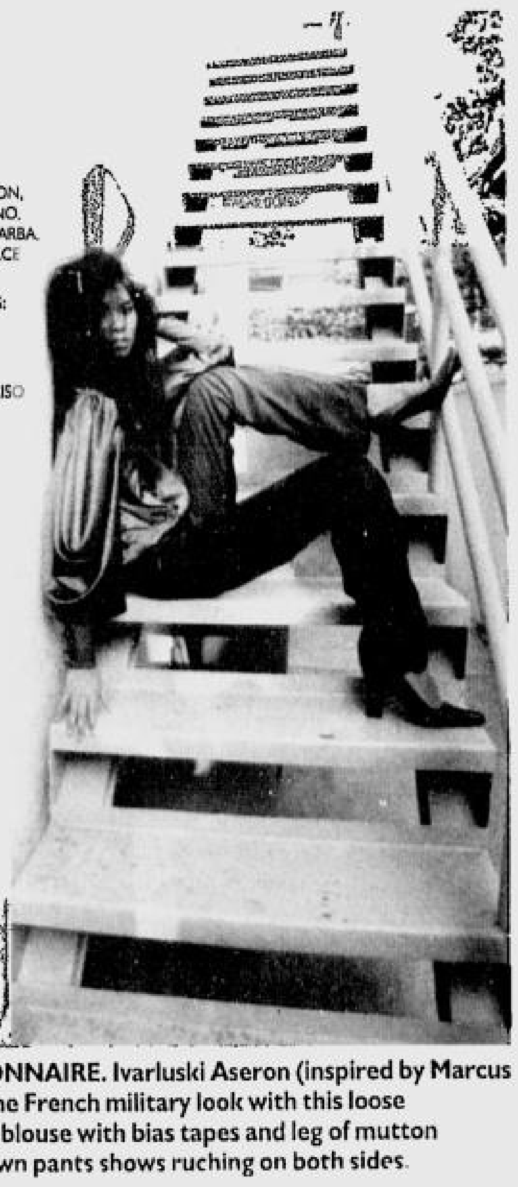
MODELS:
NIÑA NAVAL AND PAOLO PARAISO

VENUE:
ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE



SCISSOR-HAPPY SUIT. Vittorio Barba (inspired by François Rousseau's photos) picked the concept of "having something incomplete and making it complete." He snipped parts of a coat—a flea-market find—to reveal Paolo's blue tank top and paisley tie. No shirts and collar, thank you.

LITTLE GIRL LOST. Mich Dulce (inspired by Morgane Le Gall's photo) designs an A-line denim skirt draped with white-and-pink gingham cloth and coffee-stained gauze. Deconstructed blouse has a right sleeve doubling as a long glove.



MODERN-DAY LEGIONNAIRE. Ivarluski Aseron (inspired by Marcus Jans' photo) goes for the French military look with this loose chocolate brown satin blouse with bias tapes and leg of mutton sleeves. Black and brown pants shows ruching on both sides.

Liz on your summer list

PAINTED sunsets, photo images and batik blues form this season's major inspirations for the fashion label Liz Claiborne Collection.

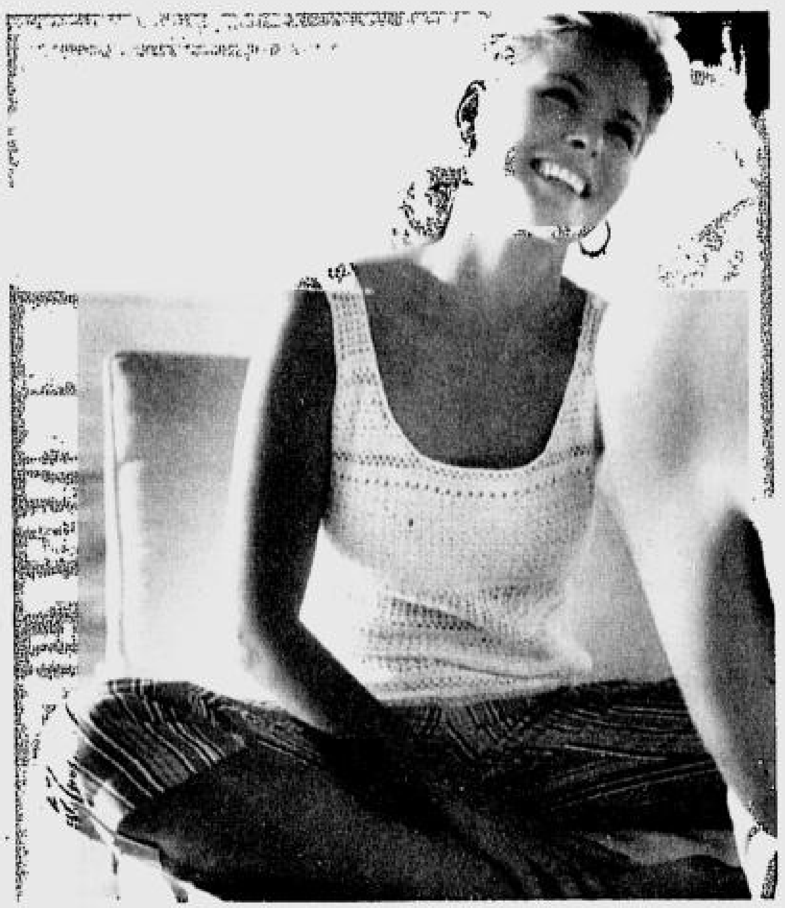
For LizSport, inspiration is taken from the 1940s with its utilitarian-inspired details mixed with feminine touches

The '50s drives the Liz&Co. line with soft, stylish, comfort dressing in washed linens this summer.

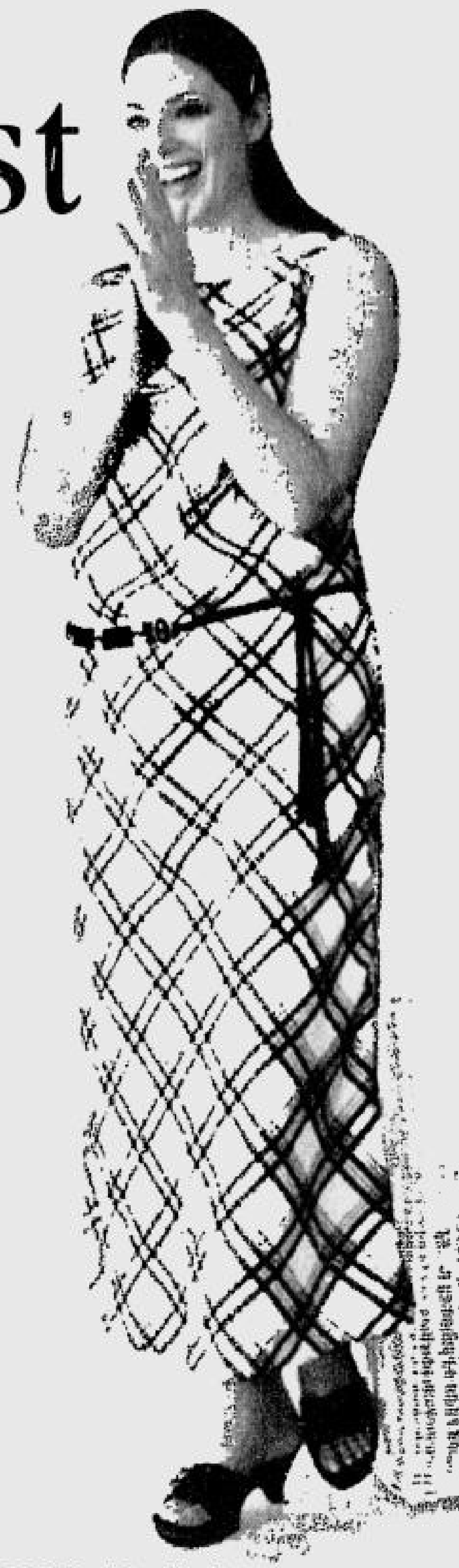
Lizwear echoes the utilitarian mood of the other Liz Claiborne lines, but with fabrics that include stretch cross-hatch, sandblasted and piece dyed denim; pigment-printed lightweight twill, sandwashed silk Fuji, yarn-dyed corded striped and embroidered cotton lawn.

Liz Claiborne Collection, LizSport, Liz&Co. and Lizwear are in missy and petite size ranges with selected styles also, in woman's size. Available at Liz Claiborne stores located at the Shangri-La Mall Edsa and at the Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati.

BATIK blue sarong skirt



VERTICAL stripes on capri pants and feminine white top



BLACK with white linen

Tempted to have an affair

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

My husband and I are both nurses. We worked in the same hospital until two years ago when he went abroad to work. He left because of financial pressures from his family.

Last year I moved to another hospital where there was an opening in a department I liked. There I became close to Joshua, my husband's former classmate.

A few months later, I realized I was falling in love with him. When I told him about my feelings, he said he didn't want to fall in love with me because my husband was his friend. He said that even if he wanted to love me, he could not because I was married.

When my husband came home for vacation, I thought my feelings for Josh would disappear, but they did not. I wanted to tell my husband about it, but I could not.

Josh has begun seeing other girls. That hurts me and makes me wonder why I love Josh when I still love my husband. I know this is unfair to my husband. I don't want to lose him. Please help me.

IN A DILEMMA

When we love a person, we also feel a need for that person. So, if you love both Josh and your husband, then you need both of them.

But which one do you love or need more? When we are torn between two choices it is because each choice is imperfect, or one would have advantages over the other. Our tendency, then, is to pick both because together they meet all our needs.

Perhaps that is how Josh and your husband are to you: each can give you something that the other cannot. Joshua is here, not abroad like your husband, so he is accessible and available whenever you are lonely. But Josh can't give you a marriage, which your husband can.

Perhaps your husband's working abroad has created a void in your life, and you see Josh as someone to fill that void. That's unfair to both Joshua and your husband.

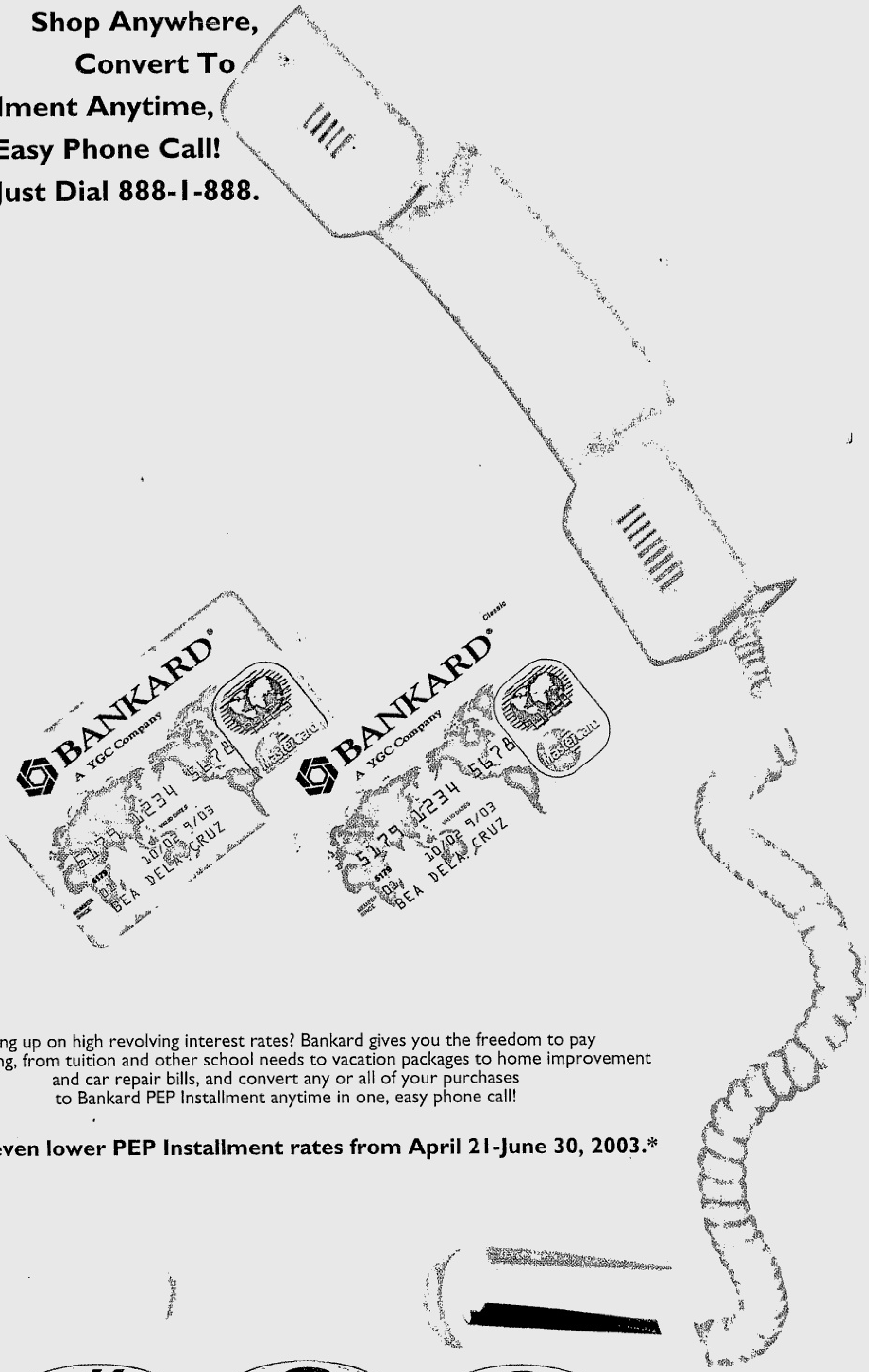
Your best choice is to stick to your husband and your marriage. You won't have a perfect life but, then, who does? The biggest imperfection in your life now is your husband's long absences. But that's neither a permanent nor a hopeless condition.

Tell your husband what risks your marriage faces because he is often away. Tell him that because he is married, his primary duty now is not to provide funds for his parents or siblings but to care for his spouse and nurture his marriage. Convince him it is best that he come home for good sooner than later.

Children's Wear & Shoes Departments
Kids Sale
up to 50% off
on great selections
April 1-30
Get a chance to WIN 1 of 18 playstation 2*
at the Children's Wear Dept
FREE One-Hour ICE SKATING
(Metro Manila branches only)
SM Ice Skating Rink
GIFT with purchase of selected brands
See mechanics posters for details
Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1236 Series of 2003
*In cooperation with PALOMINO
We've got it all for you!
SM DEPARTMENT STORE
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO • BICUTAN

BANKARD®
A YGC Company

Shop Anywhere,
Convert To
Bankard PEP Installment Anytime,
In One, Easy Phone Call!
Just Dial 888-1-888.


BANKARD®
A YGC Company
5179 1234 5678
10/02 9/03
BEA DELA CRUZ
MasterCard
BANKARD®
Classic
A YGC Company
5179 1234 5678
10/02 9/03
BEA DELA CRUZ
MasterCard

Hung up on high revolving interest rates? Bankard gives you the freedom to pay for anything, from tuition and other school needs to vacation packages to home improvement and car repair bills, and convert any or all of your purchases to Bankard PEP Installment anytime in one, easy phone call!

Enjoy even lower PEP Installment rates from April 21-June 30, 2003.*

#
3 MONTHS
6 MONTHS
9 MONTHS
12 MONTHS
18 MONTHS
24 MONTHS
30 MONTHS
36 MONTHS

*** 1.75% per mo. for a 3-mo. term; 2% for 6 mos.; 2.25% for 9 mos.; 2.5% for 12 mos.; 2.75% for 18 mos.; 3% for 24 mos.; 3.5% for 30 mos. and 4% for 36 mos.**

Note: Billed Monthly Installment Amounts form part of your total outstanding balance and become subject to regular revolving rates if outstanding balance is not paid in full.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0925 Series of 2003

Malayan Insurance • RCBC • Grepalife • Pacific Plans • House of Investments • RCBC Bankard • AY Foundation • Honda Cars Quezon City, Manila, Caloocan • Izuzu Manila • EEI Corporation • Mapua Institute of Technology and 21 other companies working as one to better serve our customers.

YGC Yuchengco Group of Companies

TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE FOR YOU.

www.ygc.com

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
LIFESTYLE

Wear a garden on your face

Pure Eden evokes images of sunlight, fruits and blossoms

TOUCHES of orchid and warm pinks

MAKEOVER 911

Kinny Salas

COSMETIC royalty Estée Lauder's face for spring is called Pure Eden, inspired no less by the Garden of Eden in the Old Testament. A flattering range of warm pinks and delicate greens is accented by touches of orchid and yellow. The overall effect conjures images of sunlight and dew, ripe fruit and gorgeous blossoms. Green, pink and yellow eye shadows and nude or sheer lips are all the rage.

Eyes: Pure·color eye shadow (P930 each) in Lemon Drop, a refreshing yellow; Mint Ice—mint green; Orchid—lilac pink; and Serpent—a lush leafy green, which is also the star color. I personally love the Lemon Drop as it gives a bright-eyed fresh look.

Face: Pure Eden Blush Petals (limited edition). A potpourri of loose blush "petals" surrounds a flower heart of highlighter.

Lips: Pure color lipstick (P880) in Pure Eden—lilac mauve; and Antique Rose—mauve rose.

Pure Color Crystal Lipstick (P880) has

WEAR/ E3

EAT ALL YOU CAN
ROAST DUCK BUFFET
(PREPARED 3 WAYS) with a total of 25 dishes ...
Hua Lan Chinese Cuisine
Jupiter St. near cor. Reposo, Makati City Tel. Nos. 896-7828/895-1681
SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS STARTING APRIL 26, 2003
11:00 AM - 2 PM 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
P 299 Only P 180 Children 4 ft below

Select
loaded
Globe
e
Load
₱250
Available Here
Globe HANDYPHONE
e
Load
electronic prepaid credits
OF
SUMMER FREEBIES
AT
Select

Globe revs up your summer with **INSTANT FREEBIES** every time you e-Load Globe Prepaid credits or buy a Globe Prepaid Hi-Memory SIM at Shell Select.

Run over to participating Shell Select outlets and enjoy these FREE summer perks now!

With ₱250, ₱300 e-Load credits or SIM pack...

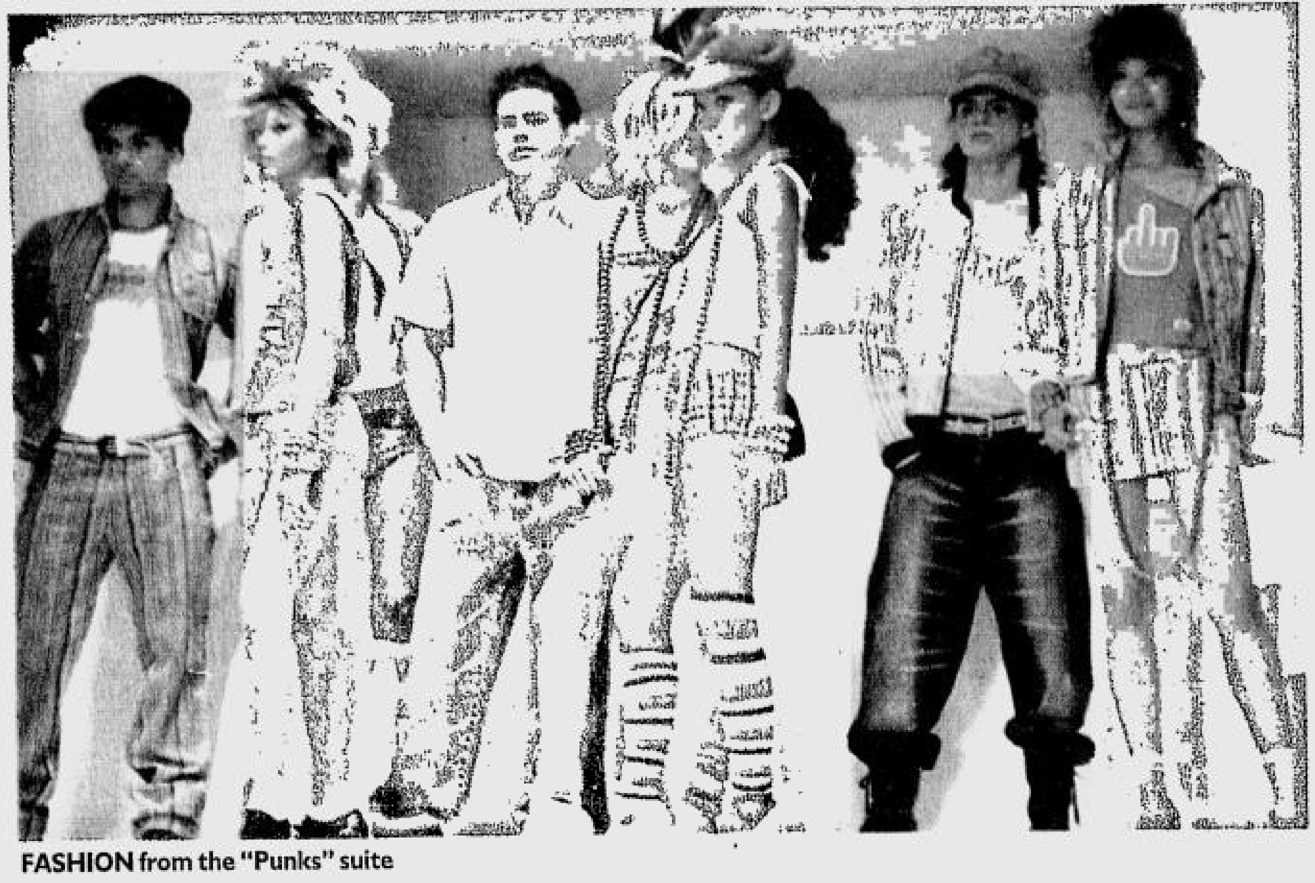
1 Nestlé Frizzy
or
1 Jelly Pop

With ₱500 e-Load credits...

1 large Nestea iced tea
or
1 Tender Juicy Hotdog Sandwich

making great things possible Globe

See flyers for details.
Promo runs from April 12 to May 31, 2003
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0801, Series of 2003



FASHION from the "Punks" suite

Jeans defy typecasting

TEESAW

Raul Teebankee

WHO would have thought that blue jeans would metamorphose into colorful, trendy and oh so, fashionable wear? Jag's ultra-hip Summer Wear 2003 at the Glorietta Activity Center a fortnight ago proved that even jeans could defy typecasting.

The show was both Broadway and Las Vegas, ballet and hip-hop, puppetry and animé— an alchemy of East and West fashion. It featured top Filipino models led by **Jo Ann Bitagcol**, and contestants in the Best Male and Female Model Search, **Bim Cecilio** and **2tay Maristela**. The Space Dolls, a dance group from Australia that has performed with Kylie Minogue, James Bond hypes and Versace ramp shows, gave the show sponsored by Jag owners **Wicky**, **Daisy** and **Bernardine Siy** an international flavor. The **Espino** brothers choreographed and directed the show.

Even though Jag's target audience is the young, sexy trendsetter, older types—independent, career-minded or bejeweled women—could also wear the jeans with ease. Mature men also could just as easily slip into a pair, probably with a bold, big 750-cc bike as accessory.

The styling and accessorizing during the catwalk presentation were innovative and original. Divided into four suites, the audience was easily drawn into the show's concept.

The "Icon" suite focused on huge graphics and logos. "Rock Stars" featured Mick Jagger influences including the classic hit song "Satisfaction" and other rock and roll inspirations. Suite No. 3, "Punks," was a throwback to the '80s while the final suite was Japan Inc.-inspired "Anna Wagashi," complete with obis, sashes, head gears and animé makeup.

The Jag fashion show was all about wearable clothes, artsy styling and entertainment!

Jennifer Lopez, Linkin Park and The Corrs were part of the Jag Jeans' music and style campaign and they were totally aware of what their choice was all about.

We did a double shift after the show: first to Hard Rock Café to listen to the spins of London-based **DJ Lisa Loud** then the Dream Bar at 6750 for some Jose Cuervo tequila straight up, of course.

JAG owners Wicky and Daisy Siy

ANGELI Villanueva, Fritz Webb and Claudine Trillo

SINGER Karylle with dad, Dr. M. TatlongHari

RTW designer Rhett Eala and Anton Leonado

FAB singer Radha Tinsay

CAGER cum model Bong Salvador

BERNARDINE Siy

MODEL 2tay Maristela

Robinsons Handyman
Do it Best MEMBER
APRIL 25 - MAY 29
LAWN & GARDEN SALE MOTHER'S DAY SPECIALS

DUST MASK
P8
Reg. P8.75

MANUSOL BALANCE FORMULA
- Water soluble plant food
- For healthier flowers and plants
- 200 grams
P72
Reg. P79.75

Hot Buy of the Month!
GARDEN GREENERY
3-pc. Garden Tool Set
BUY ONE TAKE ONE!
P99.75

DIAMOND GRIP
Work and Garden Gloves
- Superb grip
- Soft and comfortable
- Seamless liner
- Safe for handling glass, gardening, cleaning, fishing and waste collection
P119
Reg. P169.75

YATES
Flower Seeds
- Best for tropics
- Ideal for home gardens
P27 / packet
Reg. P29.75

DO IT BEST
Garden Hose
- Solid brass coupling
- For light-duty use
- Flexible & easy handling
- 25 ft. x 5/8"
SPECIAL OFFER!
P389.75
* Available only in Handyman's Do It Best Robinsons Metro East, Robinsons Place Sta. Rosa & Robinsons Starmills Pampanga

GREENFIELD
Extra Thick Heavy Duty Garden Hose
- 1/2" x 50 ft.
P295
Reg. P368.75
* Other sizes also on sale

GREENFIELD
Planters Pot #5
- Made of plastic material
- Color: cotta
* Flowers not included
P20
Reg. P24.75
* Other sizes also on sale

GREENFIELD
Planters Pot Base #5
P10
Reg. P12.20
* Other sizes also on sale

HEDGE SHEAR
- Wood handle
P131
Reg. P185.75
* Metal handle also on sale

TALON
Manual Lawn Mower
- 16" cutting path
- Hassle-free maintenance, no gas/oil needed
- Foam grip handle for maximum comfort
- Lightweight, easy to maneuver
P2,999.75
Reg. P3,944

LAMP POST
- Made of die-cast powder-coated material with 6 bevealed clear glasses designed for outdoor post
* Light bulb not included
P1,440
Reg. P1,800

DAIKEN
10-pc. Gardening Tool Set with Blow Case
- Big & small trowels, big & small transplanters, cultivator, mini rake, plastic sprayer, grass shears, sickle for grass cutting
P951
Reg. P1,188

HANDYMAN
Metro Manila : Robinsons Galleria • Robinsons Place Manila • Robinsons Place Novaliches • Waltermart Makati • Waltermart Violago • Alimall, Cubao • New Farmers Plaza, Cubao • Fairview Center Mall • Metropolis Star, Alabang • Riverbanks Center, Marikina • Starmall, Shaw • Isetann Recto • Malabon Citisquare
Luzon : Robinsons Place Imus • Robinsons Town Mall, Los Baños • Waltermart Calamba • Waltermart Carmona • Waltermart Dasmariñas • Waltermart General Trias • Waltermart Sta. Rosa • LCC Central Mall, Naga • LCC Expressmart, Legazpi • Center Mall, Baguio • Magic Star, Tarlac • Mega Center, The Mall, Cabanatuan
Visayas/Mindanao : Robinsons Place Cebu • Robinsons Place Bacolod • Robinsons Place Iloilo • Marymart Center, Iloilo • Gaisano City, Roxas • Gaisano Mall, Davao • Limketkai Center, Cagayan de Oro
HANDYMAN'S DO IT BEST : Robinsons Starmills Pampanga • Robinsons Metro East • Robinsons Place Sta. Rosa
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0935 Series of 2003

Wear a garden on your face

From page E1

shimmer coating outside but the center is rich in color. The overall effect is fuller lips—Innocence (pearl pink) and Red Apple (fuchsia red). Pure Color gloss in Innocence (P770)—sheer and ultra shiny, contains Vitamins C and E to protect against free radical damage. Pure Color crystal gloss (P770) is a shimmer version of the PC gloss. The two colors are Lemon Pop and Raspberry Pop.

Nails: Antique Rose and Silk (limited edition), while available all-year round is Crystal Opaline—sheer mother of pearl, priced at P630 each.

Flawless skin

Estée Lauder has also launched its state-of-the-art So Ingenious liquid foundation SPF 8 with loose powder (P1,550 each) and Foundation Powder Compact (P1,700/refill and P720 for compact).

What makes this line so great is that it adjusts to any weather and skin type. It hydrates dry spots but controls oil on T-Zone areas. The line uses the Quadra Color technology enabling it to adjust to any lighting. The powder foundation has a dual-sided sponge for full coverage and touch-ups. It serves as pressed powder as well. The tricky part is finding the perfect shade.

Three shades blended well with the color of my face but I chose the lightest one, first making sure that there was no discrepancy in color between my neck and face.

Tip: Pick the lightest one that blends into your jaw line during the summer, as oils and sweat tend to make foundation darker. The light shade is sure to blend in during the colder months as well, so you won't need to buy a new shade.

This, by far, is my favorite Estée Lauder foundation due to the wide range of shades and performance on skin regardless of change in season, weather and lighting.

With powder compact, more touch-ups are needed for summer but the effect is not cake-like and oil production is controlled. During colder months, I only touch up once or twice the entire day. These days, three to four touch-ups do the job.

Want makeup that lightens/brightens and prevents your face and neck from darkening? Estée has the powder foundation and protective base for that, too. Its newest breakthrough is the Whitelight EX Extra Brightening Powder Foundation SPF 24/PA+. The wet/dry formula does not look or feel heavy on the skin unlike most makeup with high sun protection properties. It makes the skin look dewy, healthy and flawlessly bare and even-toned as if you have nothing to hide. Pigmentation and sunspots are covered.

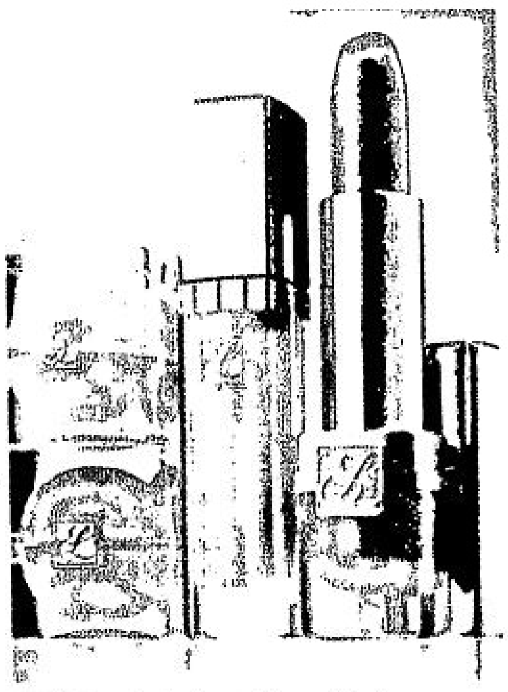
Make sure you get your right shade though or all this is in vain. Cost: P1,950 powder refill and P720 for compact.

As most people suffer from darker necks as they don't clean them as often as the face, shopping for foundation becomes an ordeal. Well, Estée has taken care of that, too, with Whitelight Extra Brightening Protective Base SPF 30, 50 ml at P2,200. This has a sheer mauve tint that neutralizes sallowness and makes skin look brighter.

Just apply loose powder on top and you are all set. Face and neck are even toned. SPF 30 is needed for stronger sun protection. This base is great for the face, too, and may be used as a primer under Powder Foundation SPF 24 or any other foundation.

The Whitelight series has skin care, of course, but that's another article. Watch out for my face brightening/lightening article, where I will review products with different prices.

Estée Lauder products are exclusively distributed by Rustan's.


ESTÉE Lauder's Pure Eden collection

NINE West Safari style

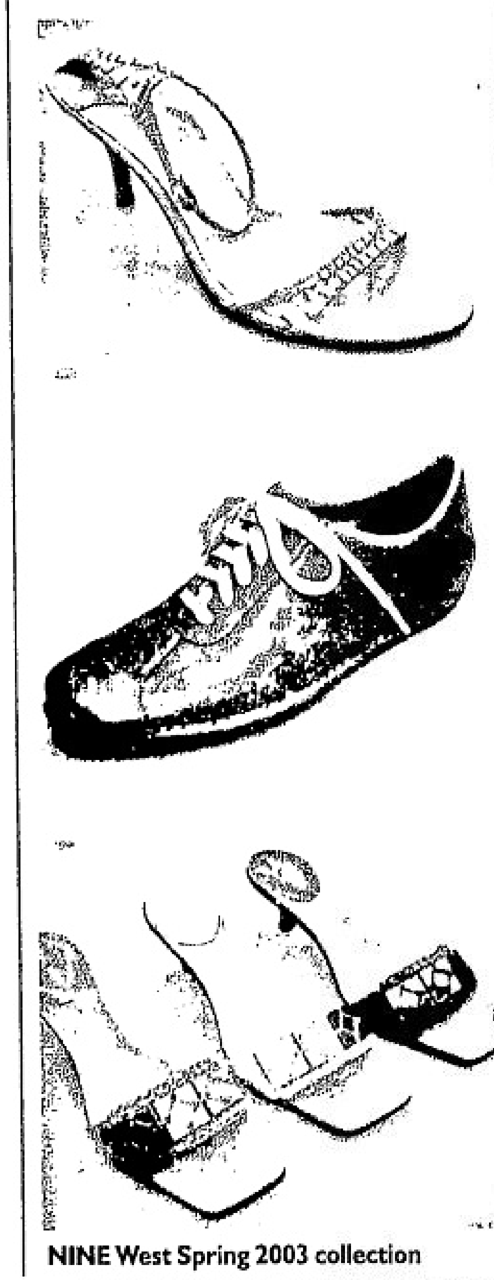
Seasonless colors for footwear

SPRING 2003 fashion, according to Nine West, has a new "back to basics" authenticity in the use of natural leathers and materials, as well as nature-inspired accessories.

The Safari style is defined by rustic handcrafted elements, wild prints and tribal details. The streets of San Francisco provide the impetus for "pretty hippy," combining bohemian style with handcrafted feminine details. New metallic leathers and metal treatments add an artisan-like quality to both day and evening style. Decoration and embellishment draw their ethnic flavor from the exotic markets and bazaars of Morocco.

Spring's earthy palette is a range of seasonless colors that are drawn from the natural landscapes of the world.

Stores Specialists Inc. is the authorized distributor of Nine West. Its shops are located at Greenbelt 3, Glorietta 3, Alabang Town Center, SM Megamall, Robinsons Place Manila, Robinsons Galleria, Shangri-La Plaza, Festival SuperMall, The Power Plant Mall, Ayala Center Cebu, Rustan's Makati, Rustan's Tower, Rustan's Cubao and Rustan's Harrison Plaza.


NINE West Spring 2003 collection

Bigen
Speedy
Conditioning Color
Color & Covering gray in 10 min.
"Now I'm never too busy to color my hair."
Alice Dixson
Speedy

Now you can cover gray hair quickly and easily!
Bigen Speedy!
- Get your new hair color in just 10 minutes!
- Applies easily and effectively with the unique, dual-purpose comb/brush
- With 6 natural herb extracts for extra care
- Re-usable tube containers make it very economical
- Available in 7 exciting colors

HOYU No. 1 hair color in Japan

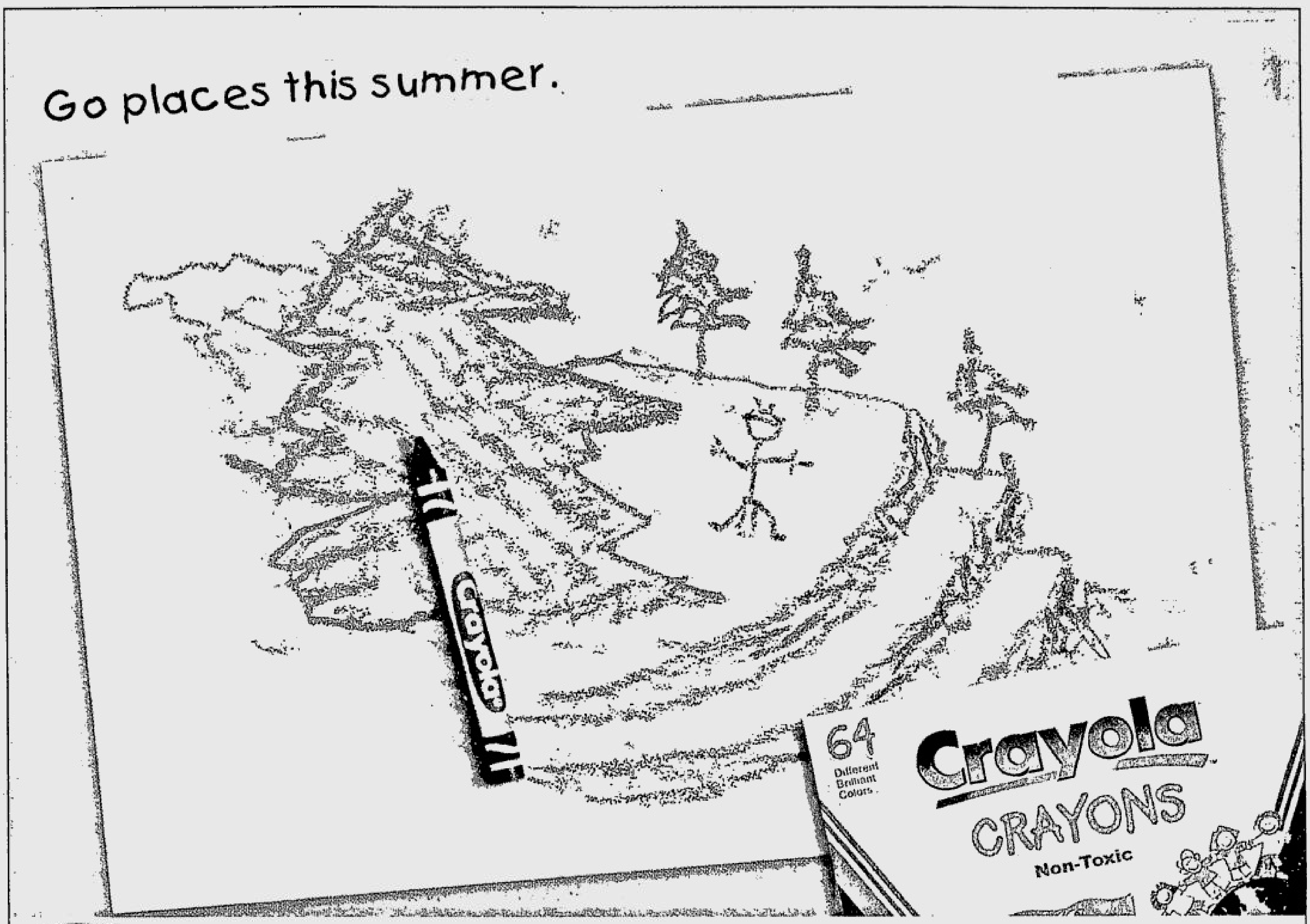
Freebies and toons in RDS promo

ROBINSONS Department Store (RDS) shines the spotlight on popular cartoon characters with "Character Fest," which runs until May 15.

RDS' special promo makes available a wide selection of items featuring the toon characters—personal care products, plastic ware, carpets, dinnerware, gifts, novelty items, apparel, sunglasses, school bags, swimsuits, toys, underwear, hair accessories, board games and bikes. Choose among Garfield, Barbie, Tweety, Bugs Bunny, Mickey and Minnie, Spiderman and the Powerpuff Girls.

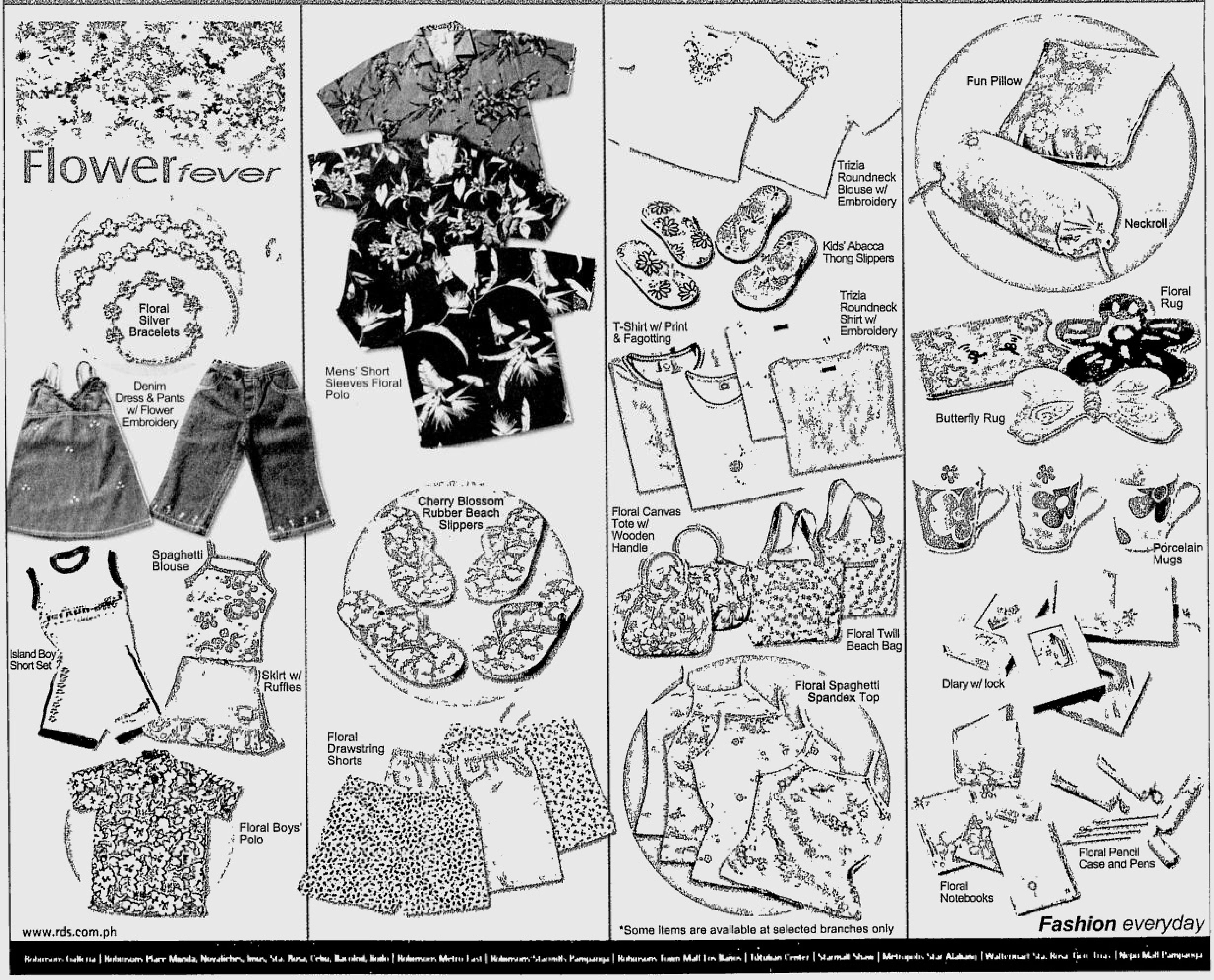
A customer who makes a minimum single receipt purchase of any Disney item worth P500 will get a free Disney poster, while P500 worth of any Barbie item gets a free fun necklace. A necklace comes with a P500 single receipt purchase of a Garfield item. Puzzles will be given to those with a minimum single receipt purchase of P300 of either a Powerpuff or Looney Tunes item.

RDS is holding a "Meet and Greet" activity with Barbie on April 27 at Robinsons Place Sta. Rosa. A similar activity with Garfield will be held today at Robinsons Starmill Pampanga, May 3 at Robinsons Galleria, May 10 at Robinsons Place Ermita and May 24 at Robinsons Place Sta. Rosa.


Go places this summer.
Crayola
64 Different Brilliant Colors
Crayola
CRAYONS
Non-Toxic

AMSPEC Available in all National Book Store branches, Shoe Mart, Goodwill, Expressions, Makro, Robinsons, and other leading school & office supply stores nationwide.

Robinsons Department Store


Flower fever
Floral Silver Bracelets
Denim Dress & Pants w/ Flower Embroidery
Spaghetti Blouse
Island Boy Short Set
Skirt w/ Ruffles
Floral Boys' Polo
Mens' Short Sleeves Floral Polo
Cherry Blossom Rubber Beach Slippers
Floral Drawstring Shorts
Trizia Roundneck Blouse w/ Embroidery
Kids' Abacca Thong Slippers
Trizia Roundneck Shirt w/ Embroidery
T-Shirt w/ Print & Fagotting
Floral Canvas Tote w/ Wooden Handle
Floral Twill Beach Bag
Floral Spaghetti Spandex Top
Fun Pillow
Neckroll
Floral Rug
Butterfly Rug
Porcelain Mugs
Diary w/ lock
Floral Pencil Case and Pens
Floral Notebooks

www.rds.com.ph

*Some Items are available at selected branches only

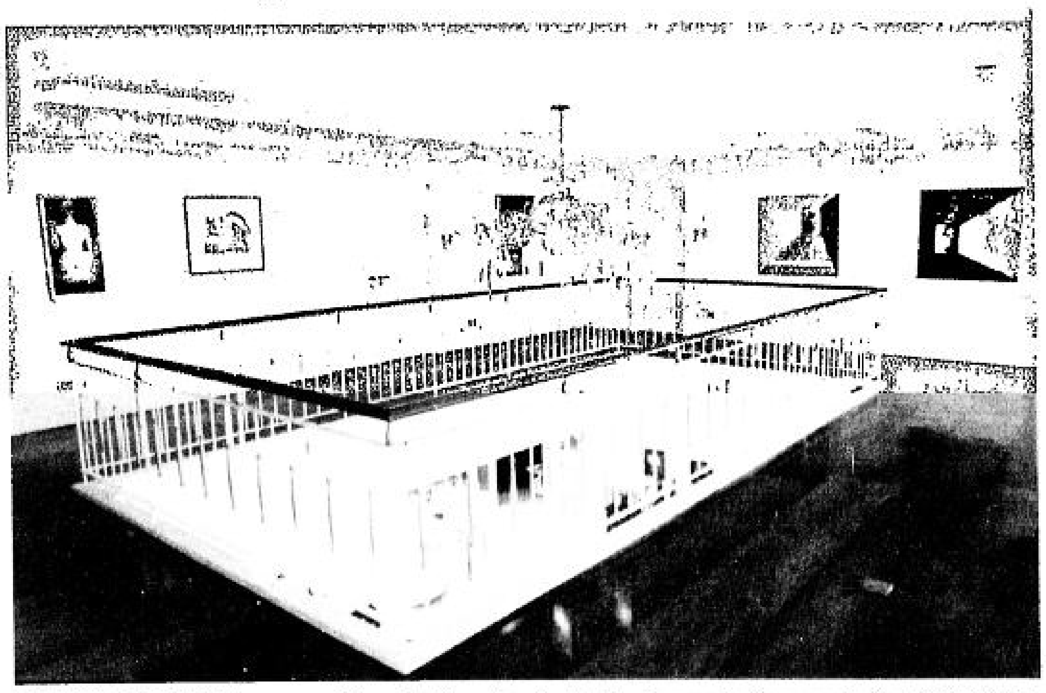
Fashion everyday

Robinsons Galleria | Robinsons Place Manila, Novaliches, Imus, Sta. Rosa, Cebu, Bacolod, Iloilo | Robinsons Metro East | Robinsons Starmills Pampanga | Robinsons Town Mall Los Baños | Tutuban Center | Starmall Shaw | Metropolis Star Alabang | Waltermart Sta. Rosa Gen. Trias | Nepo Mall Pampanga

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2003
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
LIFESTYLE
Home
F1

Freshen up anytime, anywhere with Wet Ones
Available at all leading supermarkets, health & beauty shops, and drugstores nationwide
Exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corporation

FLORENTINE inspirations include soft yellow walls, tiled roofs and concrete white pillars and gutters.



HOME GALLERY. The second-floor hall leading to the bedrooms features paintings by Filipino and Dutch artists.

Florentine outside, Filipino inside

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

WHILE leafing through a glossy interior design mag several years ago, Paul Cornelissen's attention was riveted to a two-story house in Florence with huge double doors, plenty of windows and light yellow walls set off by tiled roofs, concrete white pillars and gutters.

Thus, when Cornelissen, a furniture designer and manufacturer, and his wife Gela began building their dream home south of Metro Manila over three years ago, the Florentine dwelling became their primary source of inspiration for the exterior.

The home's interiors, however, are a different story. Like a typical Filipino house, the first floor is built around an indoor lanai-cum-living room with a view of Paul's office, the family room, dining area and kitchen. White granite tiles reflect the light, and windows and sliding doors abound to allow the sunshine in.

Without a doubt, the lanai is the family's favorite space in the house. Not only is it spacious, the view it offers is a world away from the hustle and bustle of Metro Manila.

"We feel so safe and peaceful here," says Gela of the lanai. "It's my favorite place next to the bedroom where I curl up and read or swap stories with my husband."

Behind the lanai, where the latest furniture pieces from the family-owned Far East Furniture are showcased, is a swimming pool, and beyond the hedges is a shallow creek whose banks are planted to several mango trees. Come evening, a powerful light installed in the Cornelissen garden is beamed directly to a mango tree across the creek.

Symmetrical

"This house is very symmetric," says Paul. "Almost every area or room here comes in two. The floor area is basically a square cut into several little squares."

With the exception of the centrally located lanai area, Paul's office is situated opposite the kitchen, while the family room is parallel to the dining area across the hall. Even the grand staircase by the huge foyer—think Captain Von Trapp's Austrian villa in "The Sound of Music"—leading to the hall-cum-private gallery comes in two.

The hall features a number of impressionist and abstract paintings by Filipino and Dutch artists. Paul, a native of the Netherlands, first stepped foot in the country back in the mid 1970s on a buying trip. He met and fell in love with Gela, a former singer in one of Metro Manila's five-star hotels, sometime in the mid 1980s. The pair has been blessed with two kids, Alec, 7, and Megan 6.

"This country has wonderful craftsmen," says Paul, who has chosen to stay and build a furniture factory in Pampanga for the world market. "The Filipino creativity is second to none in the region. I consider the Philippines the Italy of Asia."

Since the property is built on a sloping hill, the area where the lanai is located is actually the second floor, and the hall leading to the three bedrooms, the third floor. How lucky can the family's guests get! Two identical guestrooms, behind the house and directly below the lanai, face the swimming pool.

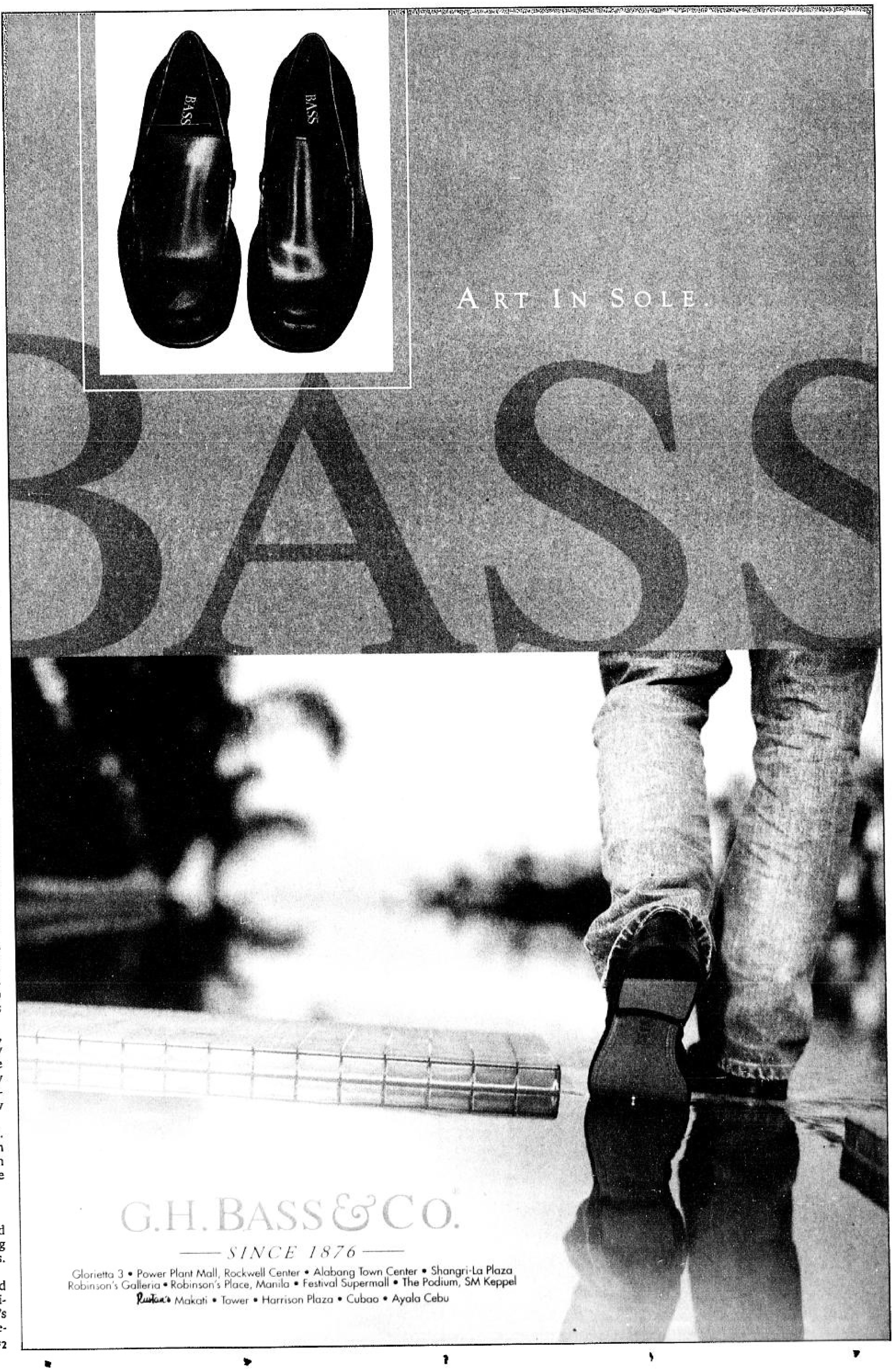
"We love to entertain people," says Gela. "We have plenty of friends and family from abroad who visit us regularly. To allow them more privacy, we've provided them separate access to the guestrooms."

White and peach

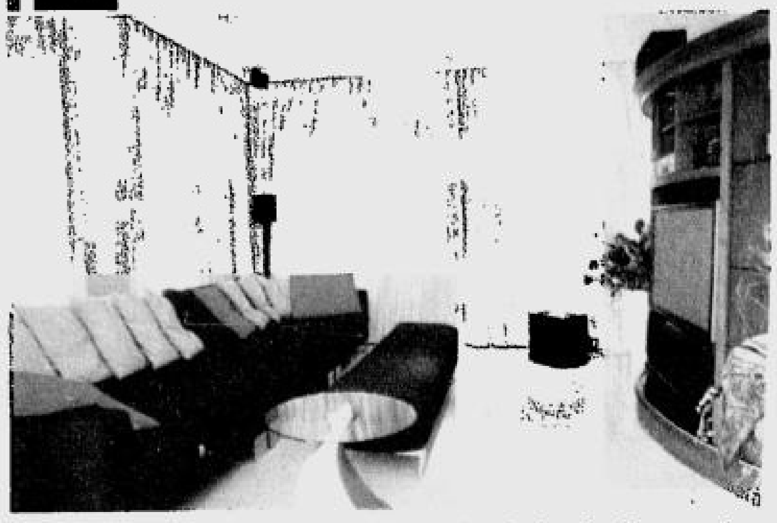
Almost every wall in the house is painted white except for the TV room and the dining area, where a lighter shade of peach rules. The effort was deliberate.

"We wanted the interiors to be as clear and as uncluttered as possible to allow our furniture pieces to shine," says Paul. The family's featured pieces, by the way, are like a move-

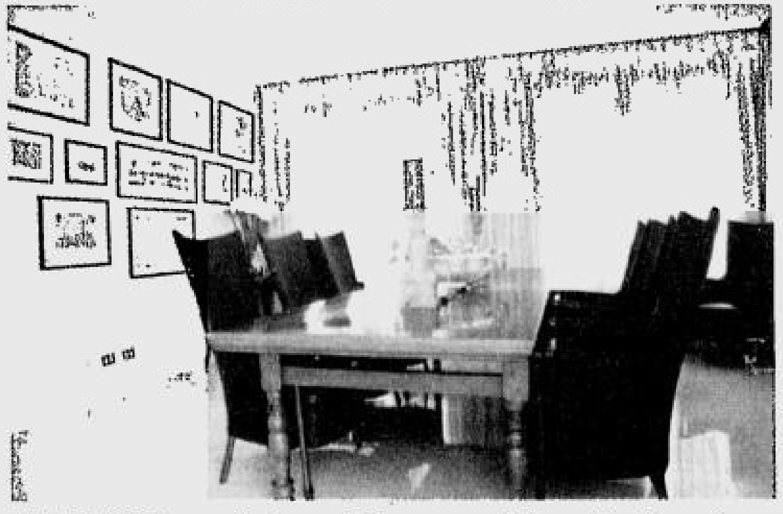
FLORENTINE F2



ART IN SOLE.
BASS
G.H. BASS & CO.
SINCE 1876
Glorietta 3 • Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center • Alabang Town Center • Shangri-La Plaza
Robinson's Galleria • Robinson's Place, Manila • Festival Supermall • The Podium, SM Keppel
Rustan's Makati • Tower • Harrison Plaza • Cubao • Ayala Cebu



THE WHITE family room with a huge dark sofa that doubles as a day bed.



THE DINING room features old European prints and furniture pieces made of native woven materials that follow the contours of Western design.

SPACIOUS kitchen with island counter that doubles as the family's breakfast nook.

Florentine outside, Filipino inside

From page F1

able feast. Since Paul is in the furniture biz, his home has become an extension of his showroom at the Power Plant Mall called Corvelli.

These days, the family showcase is all-white, set off by several throw pillows and revolving chairs in zebra prints. At the center is a huge stained coffee table featuring various knickknacks from Europe.

Italian influences spill over to include Venetian masks and lamps with a series of silver-painted dangling metal. A series of black-and-white photos of Paris and New York set against a white wall complements the baby grand nearby.

"I make it a point to change the furniture in the lanai at least once a year," says Paul. "It's an ideal way of sharing with our guests a glimpse of what's to come."

If only for the changeable furniture pieces and the infectious laughter of precocious children, a weekend stay with the Cornelissens is worth the trip.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

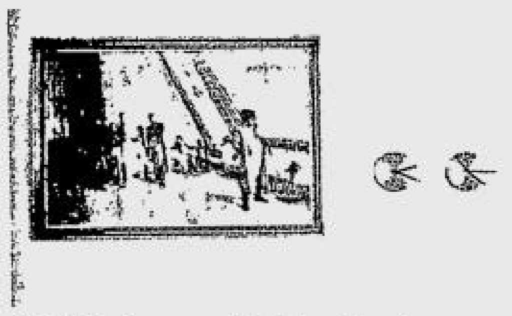
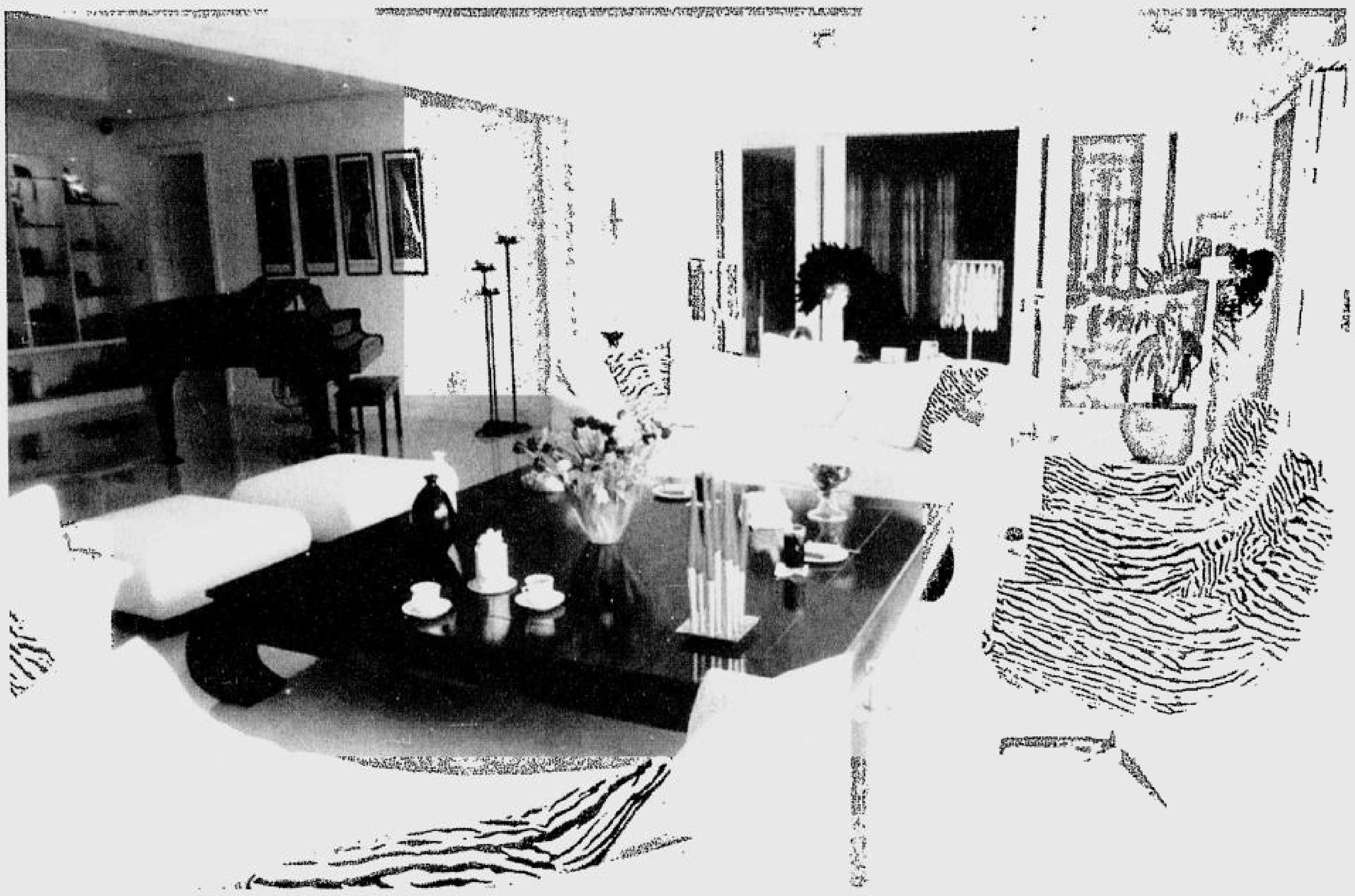
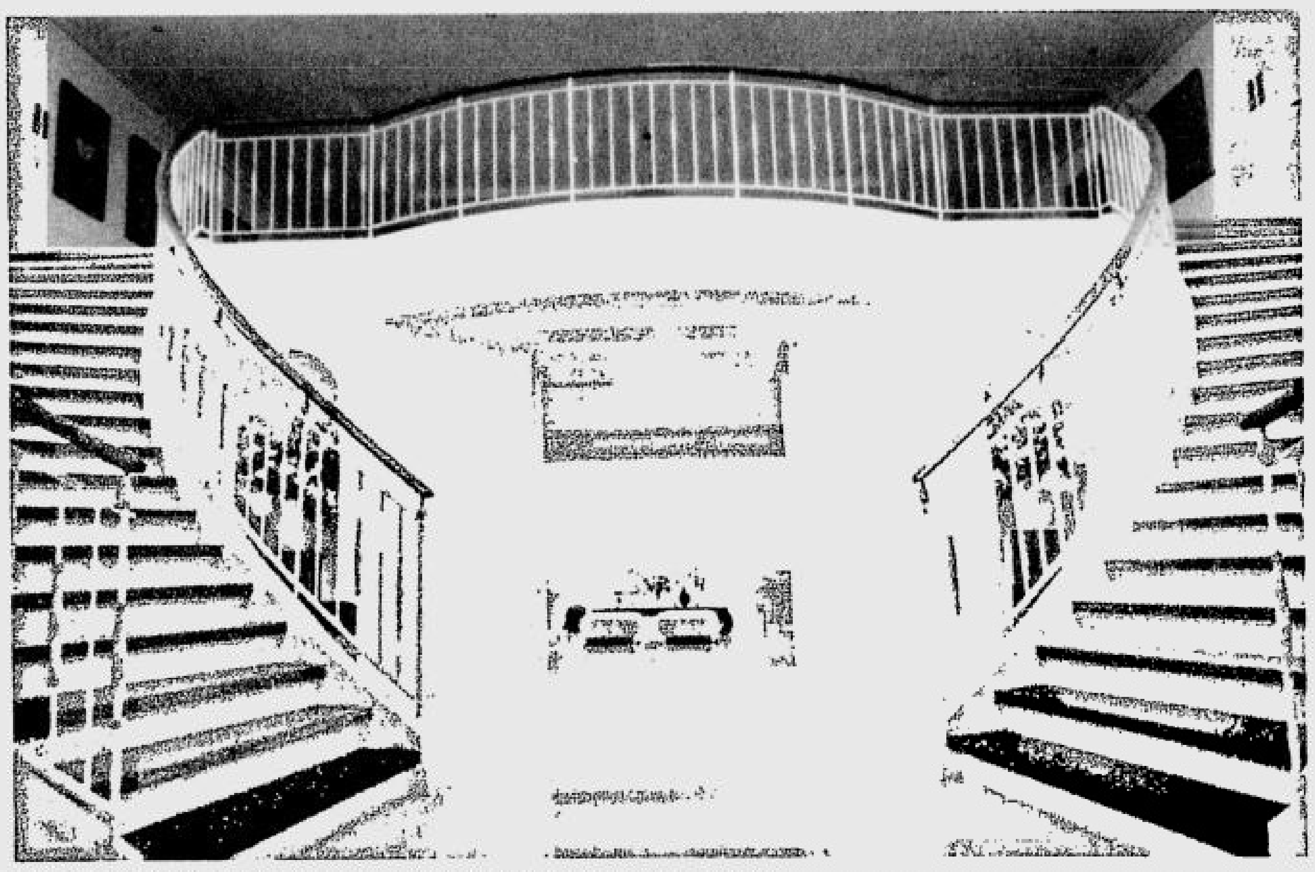


PHOTO of a pen-and-ink drawing of Napoleon Bonaparte in Paul's office is one of his favorites. The two clocks show the time in Manila and Amsterdam.



SYMPHONY in black and white in the lanai-cum-living room is composed of twin white sofas with zebra-printed throw pillows and revolving chairs. Most of the furniture pieces found in this home are available at Corvelli, Power Plant Mall.



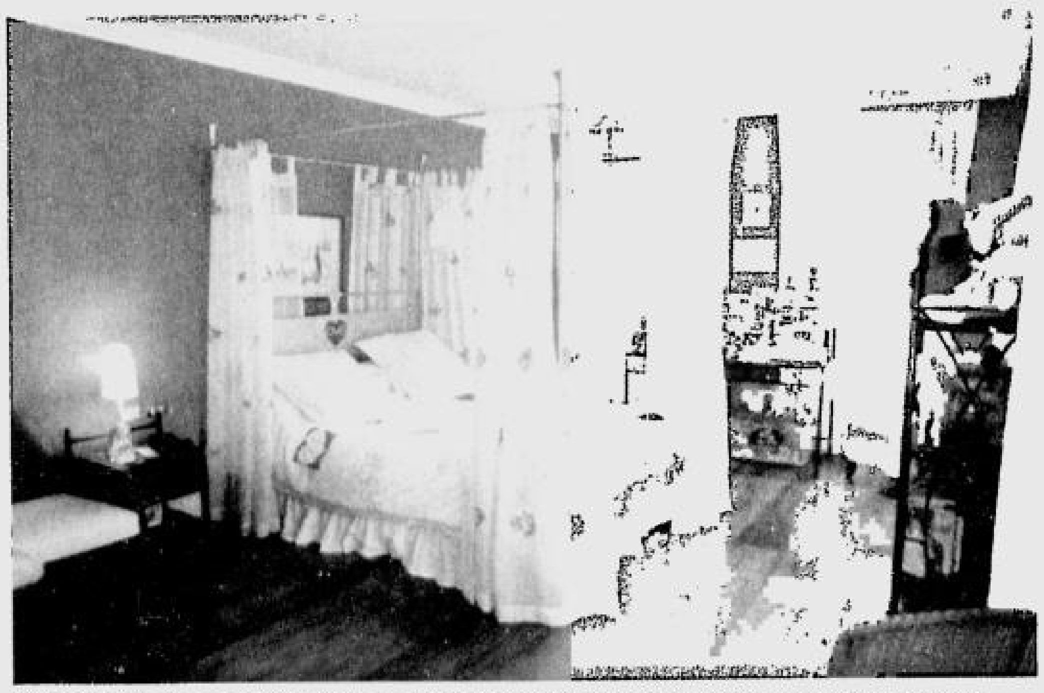
NO SINGING VON TRAPPS HERE but lots of harmony and symmetry, as is obvious from these grand staircases

> The interiors are a symphony in white, the better to highlight the elegant pieces from the family-owned Far East Furniture

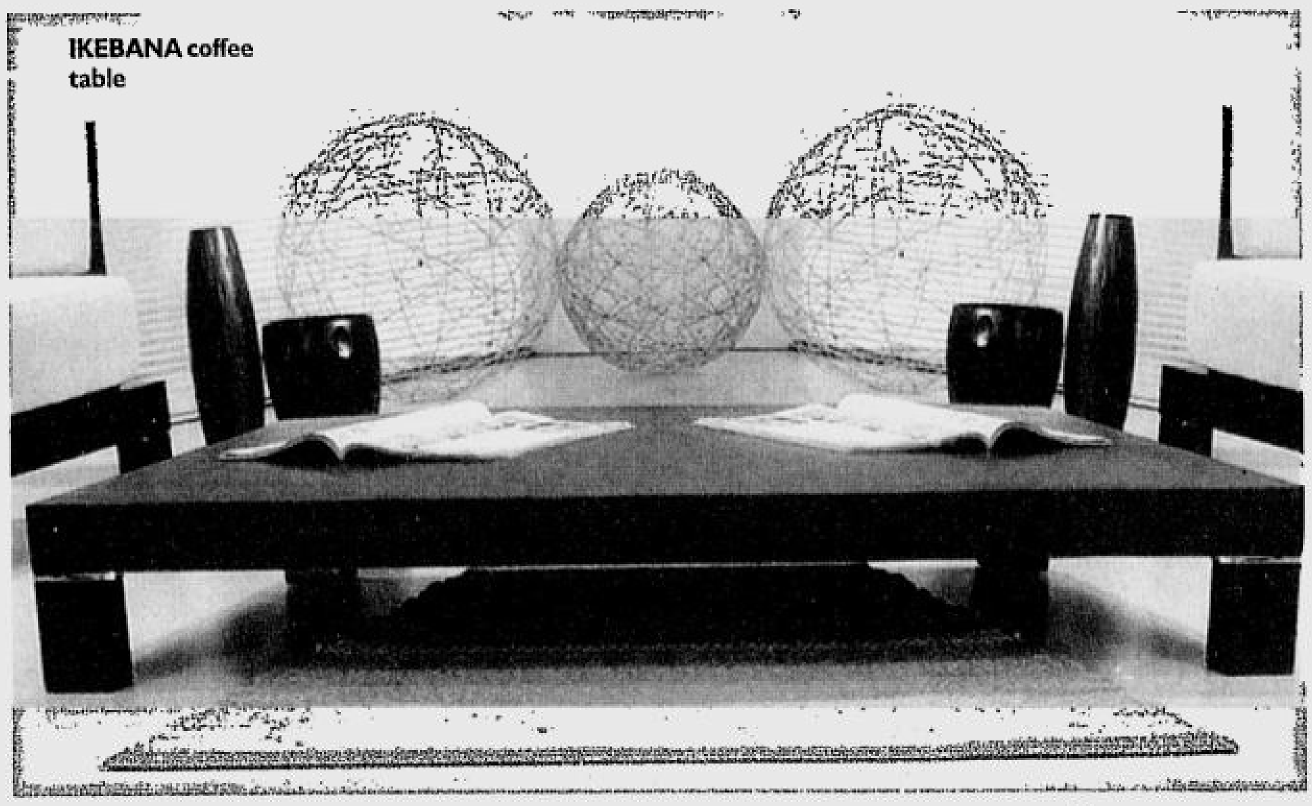
A BLACK baby grand is set against a white wall accented by black-and-white photos of Paris and New York.

THE CORNELISSENS: Alec, Paul, Megan and Gela

ALEC'S bedroom with a steel-framed bed big enough for his parents.



MEGAN'S bedroom, with a four-poster bed with diaphanous canopy, is as girl as it comes.



IKEBANA coffee table

Japanese-inspired living

PLAY & Display unveils its new line of Japanese-inspired furniture for living and dining rooms. Dining chairs feature nine different designs from simple to elaborately structured types, which can be customized through the fabric color and texture that best reflect the client's lifestyle or the ambience he/she wants to create.

The nine dining chair designs are Tori, with paralleled high-back frame made of solid dark wood and white fabric seat; Una, high-back frame fully covered with fabric; Shimi, sturdy back frame accented with vertical bars and fabric-covered seat; Udon, fabric seat and backrest; Toki, high-back frame classically crafted with vertical holes; Oki, high-arched back frame; Naji, a low-back chair with fully covered frame and seat; Kani, medium height half-covered frame; and Zumo, vertical bars back support.

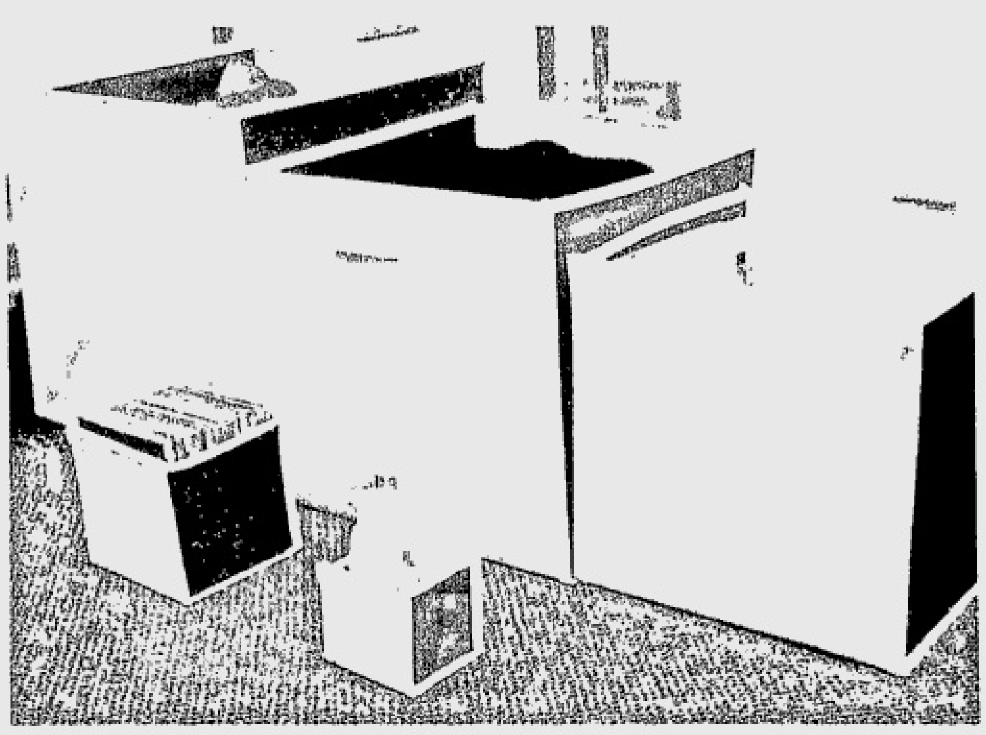
The chairs come with matching dining tables Shimi (rectangular with plain top), Ikebana (rectangular with checked design) and Sudon (square top and solid legs), all made of dark wood.

Play & Display extends interior design services and its design group can assist homeowners in selecting the right furniture pieces.

The Japanese-inspired collection also includes TV console, wall system, sideboard, coffee table, sofa and armchair. They are sold in sets or individually.

Play & Display outlets are at 6797 Ayala Avenue, Glorietta 4, The Power Plant, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Festival, Alabang Town Center, Megamall, SM North, SM Pampanga and Pavilion.

TORI



BLANCA Magic Box in red

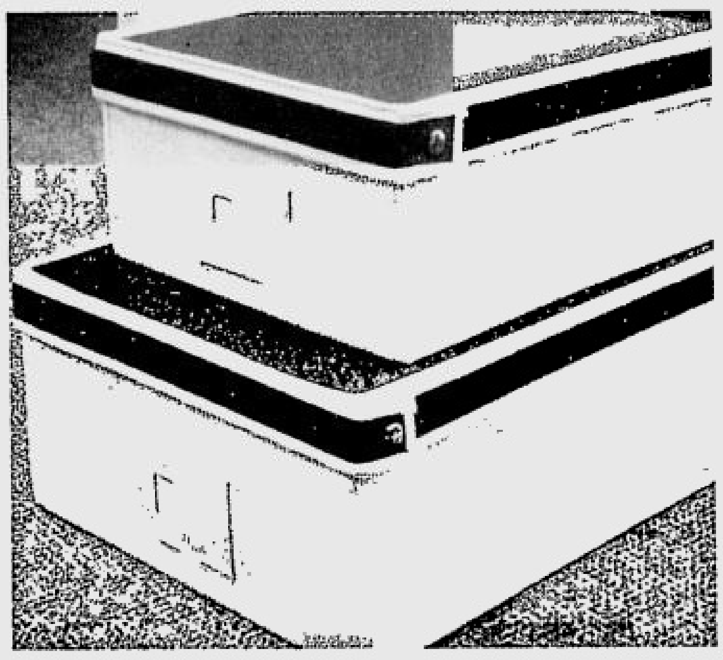
New age storage ideas

MAKEROOM introduced recently the Blanca Magic Box and the Blanca Knock-Down Storage Box.

The magic box can store and organize toys, clothes, sheets, decorative items, tapes, CDs and the like. Collapsible and easily stored when not in use, it is made of natural canvas and cotton-colored canvas. The magic box comes in red, blue and green, and in sizes extra small, small, medium, large and extra large.

The storage box is ideal for storing sweaters, hosiery, accessories, toys and other items. It protects items from dust and is easy to assemble with no tools required. Also made of natural canvas and cotton-colored canvas, it comes in red, blue and green and in sizes small and medium.

MakeRoom is at Lifestyles, 2nd level, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell, Makati City.



BLANCA Knock-Down Storage Box in red

CCA
Center for Culinary Arts, Manila

SEE THE WORLD
BE A PASTRY CHEF

Let CCA, Manila help you turn your baking and pastry arts dream into reality.

CCA GRADUATES

KIT CORONEL
Owner, " Manila, Manila Restaurant" San Francisco California
Diploma in Culinary Arts & Technology Management (1998 - 2000)

CHITO HUKOM
Broiler Cook "John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel & Casino"
1100 Nugget Ave., Sparks Nevada 89431, USA
Diploma in Culinary Arts & Technology Management (1998 - 2000)

MARY GRACE TAN
Line Cook, "Captain Al's Restaurant" South Seas Resort, Florida, USA
Diploma in Culinary Arts & Technology Management (1998 - 2000)

NICO MEDIANO
Line Cook, "Captain Al's Restaurant" South Seas Resort, Florida, USA
Diploma in Culinary Arts & Technology Management (1998 - 2000)

JED BALUYOT
Prep cook, " Nobu Restaurant" Manhattan New York
Diploma in Culinary Arts & Technology Management (2000 - 2002)

J.A. VENTURA
Resort Chef, BANFF Resort-Hotel, Canada
Diploma in Culinary Arts & Technology Management (1999-2001)

CHERRY PEREZ
Prep cook, BANFF Resort-Hotel, Canada
Diploma in Culinary Arts & Technology Management (1999-2001)

JEHAN FERNANDEZ
Baker BANFF Resort-Hotel, Canada
Certificate in Baking and Pastry Arts (1999-2000)

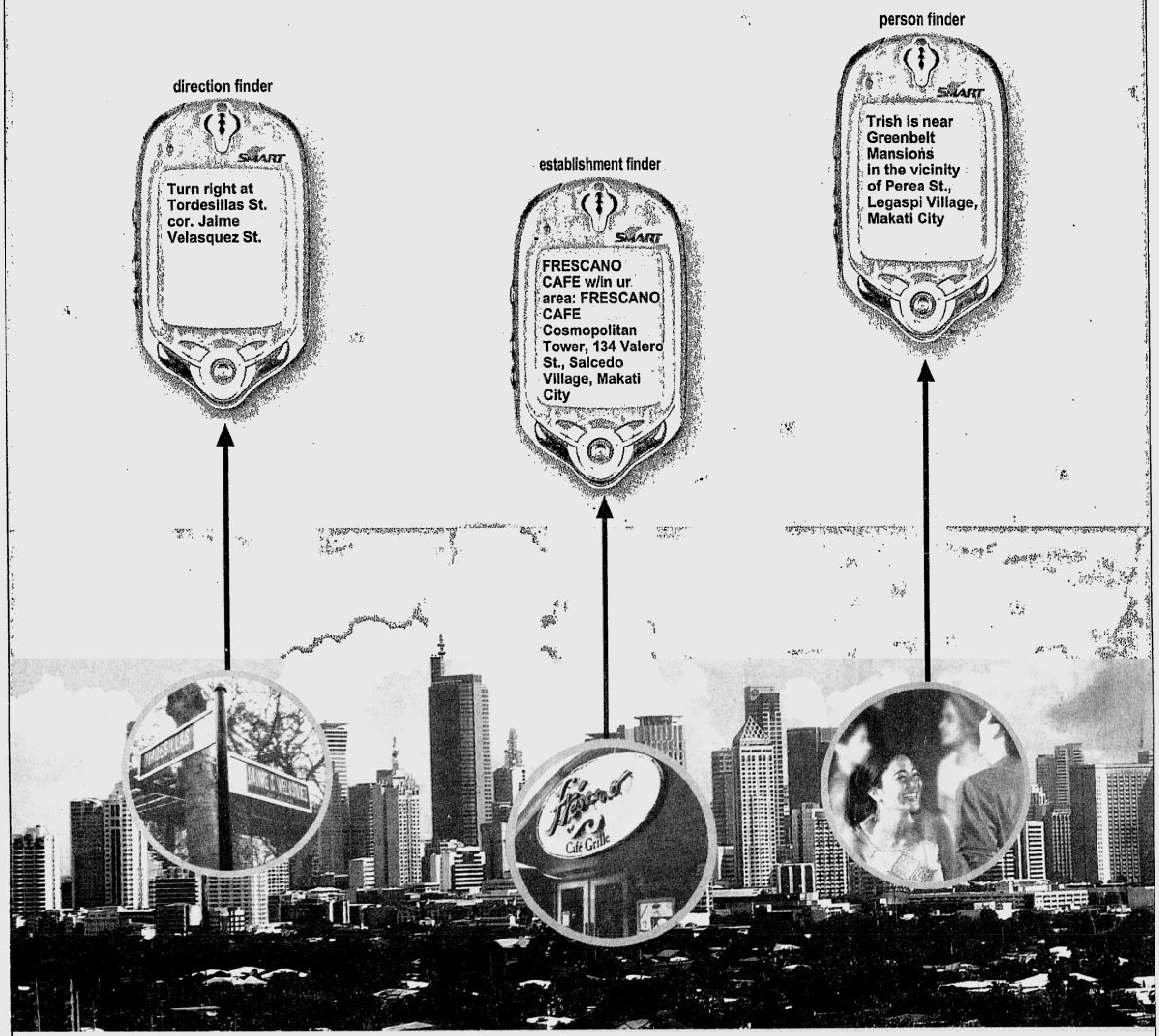
RUPERT SO
General Purpose Attendant - Pantry, Holland, America
Diploma in Culinary Arts & Technology Management (1999-2001)

Courses Offered: CERTIFICATE IN BAKING AND PASTRY ARTS
Diploma in Culinary Arts and Technology Management
Venture into Entrepreneurship in the Food Industry
Culinary Entrepreneurship

Enrollment for the Certificate in Baking and Pastry Arts (June 2003) is on-going
Classes start June 9, 2003

287 Cravings Center Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights Quezon City, 1102 Philippines
Tel. nos.: 426-4837 / 426-4840 / 426-4841 / 928-8167 / 928-8255 Telefax no. 426-4836
e-mail: marketing@cca-manila.com website: cca-manila.com

SMART zed™


direction finder
establishment finder
person finder
SMART
SMART
SMART
TORDESILLAS ST.
JAIME VELASQUEZ ST.
Frescano Café Grille

Turn right at
Tordesillas St.
cor. Jaime
Velasquez St.

FRESCANO
CAFE w/in ur
area: FRESCANO
CAFE
Cosmopolitan
Tower, 134 Valero
St., Salcedo
Village, Makati
City

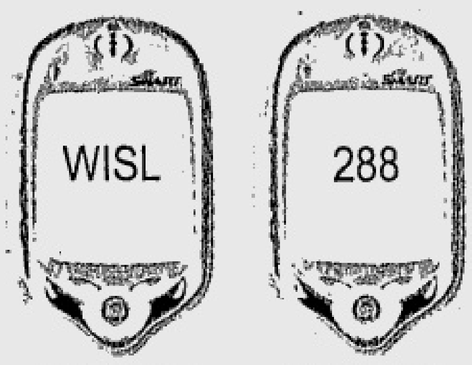
Trish is near
Greenbelt
Mansions
in the vicinity
of Perea St.,
Legaspi Village,
Makati City

Find people and places easily with

WISL
Where Is Locator

Exclusive to SMART & TALK 'N TEXT Subscribers

For more details:



Type "WISL" · Send to 288

Or Call Customer Hotline No. 888-9105

*Soon to be available

Locate people, establishments, and directions fast and easy with SMART zed WISL—the Where Is Locator. SMART zed WISL is the new location-based service available through text. Now, you can have peace of mind as it allows you to find people, establishments and directions with WISL Person Finder, Establishment Finder, and Direction Finder.*

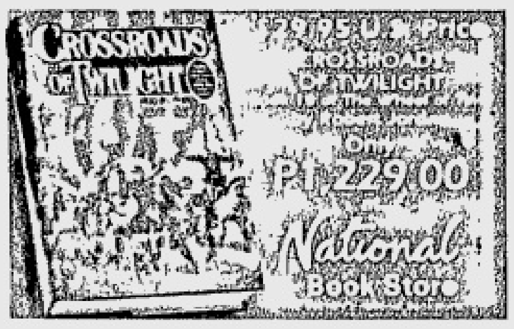
For worry-free location information, activate your SMART zed WISL today!

powered by ants

ASIAN NAVIGATION AND TRACKING SYSTEMS, INC.

Home LIFESTYLE

For feedback, text us at **(0919)880-33-54** or email us at **pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph**



'Quarantine lifestyle' in the time of SARS

LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson San Juan

TO HEAR Alice talk, all is well in her world—in Hong Kong. Not only was she cool, she also sounded amused on the phone, upon knowing that I was anxious if she was okay or not.

"We can teach these people [in Hong Kong] how to panic-buy. We Pinoys do it systematically. We're so used to it," she chuckled.

When I called her, **Alice Sevilla Mendoza**, a colleague and former INQUIRER editor, had just returned to HK from New York (brief work trip). She has lived in HK for a decade or so now, loves it and will not be "pirated" from her career there.

"[In New York] I bought up all the alcohol wipes in the store [in preparation for the return to HK] and when the cashier looked at me in a puzzled way, I said, 'I'm from HK that's why.' You should have seen how the counter cleared up in seconds, like the parting of the Red Sea."

She said a boy in HK pulled a prank on the Net. He wrote that HK in two hours would be declared an epidemic center, or something as catastrophic, and triggered panic-buying.

I simply had to ask Alice what the Hong Kong people did wrong when they went panic-buying.

"Jostling and fighting," she said. "Us? We simply hoard. We know how to attack the shelves."

So what did you end up panic-buying, I asked.

"Candles," she said.

Now, this I got to hear.

"If HK was going down, I might as well go down in style. The room well scented," she said.

Why wasn't I surprised to hear that from Alice, who, if you must know, represented the oddball population that was my staff in the Chronicle (now defunct, we must be reminded)?

And—she had to tell me—she doesn't wear a mask, not even on the MTR, their version of our light rail transit system. Why? Again, I simply had to be enlightened.

"Wearing a mask makes me cough. I must be allergic to it. Anyway, everybody else is wearing it, so that leaves me safe just the same," she said.

Of course, people throw her dagger looks in the MTR because she is unmasked. "Like in sci-fi," she described the mood, as if I needed more imagery.

Anyway, she said, "people don't shake hands anymore," to emphasize the self-imposed restriction on human contact. Another friend from HK would later provide more specifics—"Kissing is out."

Expectedly, health shops are doing good business. Property prices have plunged, which made it a good time for Alice to change flats, and which was why she sounded more excited about her new home than frightened about SARS.

Alice believes Hong Kong has been prosperous for so long they're not used to disasters, again unlike us. The SARS outbreak is not about to make Alice up and leave HK. For her, it's business as usual, even while she's aware that lifestyle conditions around her are changing.

She may not play up the fear of SARS and may be fatalistic about it like any Pinoy, but I don't think she's about to be reckless. Ironically, she's the type in our group who couldn't even stand dust.

SARS brought to the fore how differently each culture responds to a crisis that's not political, economic or technological, but one that's seemingly beyond human management or control. Hong Kong and Singapore obviously have the systems and infrastructure to cope up to a certain point. Right away they resorted to telecommuting so that business could go on with the least human interaction, thus reducing the risks of contamination.

Some companies, I learned, farmed out their operations to various places, again so that the entire firm was not paralyzed in case some personnel caught the virus. Business management solutions, in short.

It's efficiency to the max—cold, impersonal, but very result-oriented. In Singapore, webcams are installed in homes of SARS victims to ensure full compliance with quarantine measures. Big Brother watching. Stiff fines are imposed on violators in HK and Singapore.

In contrast, in a highly personalistic Filipino society, we didn't even know how to tell the domestic workers coming home from HK to stay away for Holy Week lest we hurt feelings or break family traditions. What's one more disaster, anyway, the thinking goes.

On the upside, our fear of SARS is tempered by both faith and fatalism. What will be will be. Filipinos believe in a caring and merciful God. We know how to hand over the reins of control to a Higher Being; in fact, we do it much too often. In the West, revived spirituality is part of hipness. Here, spirituality is not only native, it's almost genetic. It's both our upper and downer.

Unfortunately SARS is one problem when spirituality alone won't be enough. Spirituality with efficiency and good management is better. It's caring for others so you care for yourself, and vice versa.

One friend, a HK native who's usually a smug sophisticate, said that SARS was, indeed, reconfiguring lifestyles in that cosmopolitan center.

"Terrifying, actually," he said. "Sufficiently so, to scare me, and many other cowards like me, away from practically everywhere that is of interest in the evenings in HK."

He said SARS was "insidiously tearing apart the fibers of the HK lifestyle. It is not just the masks and the gloves. It is the trust, or its ab-

QUARANTINE/ G4

MASKED pair walk past an advertisement in Hong Kong. AP

Real People. True Stories.

"Now great skin runs in the family – thanks to Imedeen!"

Cynthia Elazegui Sanchez,
41, HR Manager
Cristy Elazegui Puzon,
40, Airline Ticketing Supervisor

Like all sisters, they share secrets. Like the beauty secret that keeps them looking so young for their age.

"I learned of Imedeen thru my colleague," Cristy confides. "I immediately convinced Cynthia to try it." Pretty soon, both sisters were hooked, and for good reason. "I thought my sunspots and blemishes were there for good – but now they're completely gone," Cynthia shares. "My skin really improved. Feeling ko parang skin ng baby," declares Cristy. That's because only Imedeen helps nourish and strengthen the inner layer of the skin, resulting in more youthful, brighter and even skin tone.

"We're each other's best friends," Cynthia exclaims. 'But we both agree, ang best friend ng skin namin is Imedeen!"

Imedeen. The Skin Care Tablet.

Ultrasound images of the skin structure: denser structure implies better support and ability to hold moisture

Clinically Proven

The Skin Care Tablet

AYALA CENTER, CEBU · CORTE DE LAS PALMAS (ALABANG TOWN CENTER) · GREENBELT 3 · THE POWER PLANT (ROCKWELL CENTER) · ROBINSONS PLACE MANILA · SM MEGAMALL, BLDG. B · THE STORE (GRAND BOULEVARD HOTEL) · RUSTAN'S MAKATI · RUSTAN'S TOWER · RUSTAN'S CUBAO · RUSTAN'S HARRISON PLAZA

CORITO Escario-Yu and her design

BERNIE Montenegro and her design

X means high marks for Cebu design

CFIF president Ligaya C. Quisumbing

By Abe Florendo
Contributor

LOCAL visitors to the 2003 Cebu X, the yearly international furniture and furnishings exhibition in Cebu City, were disappointed to find the finely crafted and beautifully designed furniture and complement were only for foreign buyers.

Sorry, folks, you can only ogle but you can't buy. And certainly, you can't copy.

The last, of course, is impossible to enforce. Copying the furniture designs at the Cebu X (X for "Xciting," "Xtraordinary," "Xcellent" and other exclamations of praise and delight) is easy to do.

You can copy the basic design of a chair, and if you make slight changes , like using only three of the four *papaya*-leaf patterns of the backrest, for instance, you have yourself an original.

But it would be more difficult copying the fine craftsmanship and finish that bring the chair on a par with, or even better than, the best furniture in the world.

Cebu is positioning itself as "the design destination of Asia," or in the words of Agustin Palao of Design Ventures Cebu, "the window to the world of furniture design." This year's show, the 14th edition, attracted 190 exhibitors whose products covered lifestyle and contract furniture and furnishings, with designs ranging from Philippine contemporary to classical impressions and, with increasing popularity, lifestyle accessories.

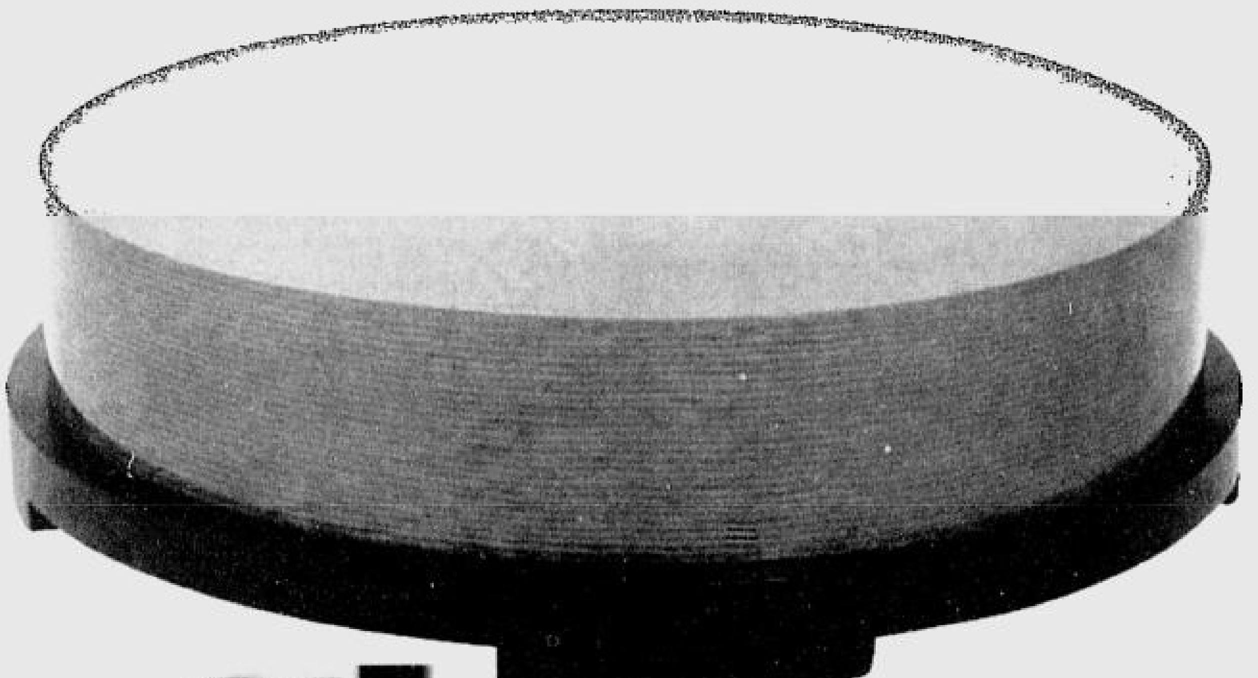
The products were fashioned with amazing artistry and inspiration using traditional materials like wood, rattan, wicker, bamboo, wrought iron, metal, stone, and plastic, oftentimes embedded with exotic and surprising materials like animal and fish bones, crab carapace, shagreen (stingray hide), banana bark and coconut shells.

An astounding example of this ingenuity with the indigenous, or the unconventional, was a glowing centerpiece made from a baked and laminated termite mound, a bravura creation by Movement 8, a group of young Filipino designers that had participated in prestigious exhibitions in Cologne, Milan and New York. Movement 8 joined Cebu X for the first time this year.

Downscaled expectations

The Cebu X run this year came on the heels of the disastrous and ominous Bali and Davao bombings.

As a result, said Ligaya Quisumbing, president of the Cebu Furniture Industries Foundation (CFIF), which organized Cebu X, "We have been a little more conservative in our projections. There have been 20 percent less buyers than last year and we've been prepared to be happy making about as much as we did last year."



DEBBIE V. Palao and her design (above)

The expo posted $250 million in sales, only slightly better than last year's.

According to CFIF, the Philippines ranked eighth among the major sources of furniture in the USA in 2000. Since 1997, Cebu has been the major source of these exports. In 2001, Cebu accounted for 90 percent of these exports, earning more than $250 million.

Cebu has more than 300 manufacturers (more than half are represented by CFIF). And the number is growing.

> The Queen City wants to be the window to the best furniture designs in the world

Growth, however, is also throwing into sharper glare some pressing problems of the industry.

The problem of exhibition space has become more critical. This year the fair site of 4,500 sq m in Waterfront Hotel proved less than sufficient for the exhibitors who, although less in number than last year's, had wanted more space. Another hotel venue, Cebu Plaza, also in Lahug, a few minutes drive from Waterfront, could have provided additional space, but unfortunately it closed down last March.

To make the show bigger and better, CFIF adopted the "extension" scheme whereby guests and buyers were shuttled to the manufacturers' and exporters' showrooms in Mandaue, Cebu, Lapu-lapu and Talisay.

The buzz around Cebu these days concerns the P300-million Megadome project of the provincial government to be built in Mandaue City, where most of the furniture factories and showrooms are located. The buzz goes that it will be a world-class venue for basketball and entertainment.

But CFIF says that what Cebu needs is not a stadium but an exhibition center that can boost the export industry and generate dollars for the economy.

Palao, who represents CFIF in the Megadome project, has explained to the government planners that a sports stadium/concert theater cannot convert into a furniture exhibition hall, which requires vast, unobstructed spaces.

Another problem are dwindling material sources. "Every time I talk to buyers, they tell me that they see new designs, but not much new indigenous materials," says Quisumbing. "It's a sharp observation. In truth, we need to source and develop new materials. And we need the help of government in sourcing and developing new materials."

Transition

The Philippines, Quisumbing points out, is known for "transitional furniture," the bridge between classic and contemporary, which draws on a felicitous melding of indigenous and traditional materials in an original way.

And originality demands fresh talents and unfettered imaginations. Cebu's big furniture makers do not substantially deviate from the classic designs that are favored by their traditional markets in the US, Australia, Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, and increasingly the Middle East.

But there's an emerging market for contemporary, even ultramodern, designs.

Design is not static, says Corito Escario-Yu, president of the Designers Guild Philippines, who finished Fine Arts at the University of San Francisco.

Formed as the training arm of the CFIF, the Guild counts among its other active and selflessly motivated officers Debbie Palao of Design Ventures Cebu, Bernice S. Montenegro of Pacific Traders and Manufacturing Corp, Kenneth Cobonpue, Rene Ybanez, Luisa Robinson, the Spaniard Ramon Castellanos, who has practically made Cebu his home, and Maybelline Te of Tequesta International Corp. They understand that a continuous trading program for designers and technicians will ensure the future of Cebu's furniture industry.

Ironically, no school in Cebu offers a formal degree in furniture engineering. "We've been talking with some schools here, specifically Don Bosco and the University of San Carlos, to expand or strengthen their woodworking or engineering and design programs to include furniture making and design," says Debbie Palao, who won this year's Mugna (a Cebuano word for "to create") award for best product design. "They have been very receptive."

"We've also been conducting an annual design workshop for junior Guild members that would help them evolve from mere draftsmen to truly creative artists with a firmer grasp of proportion and form and function," says Corito Yu.

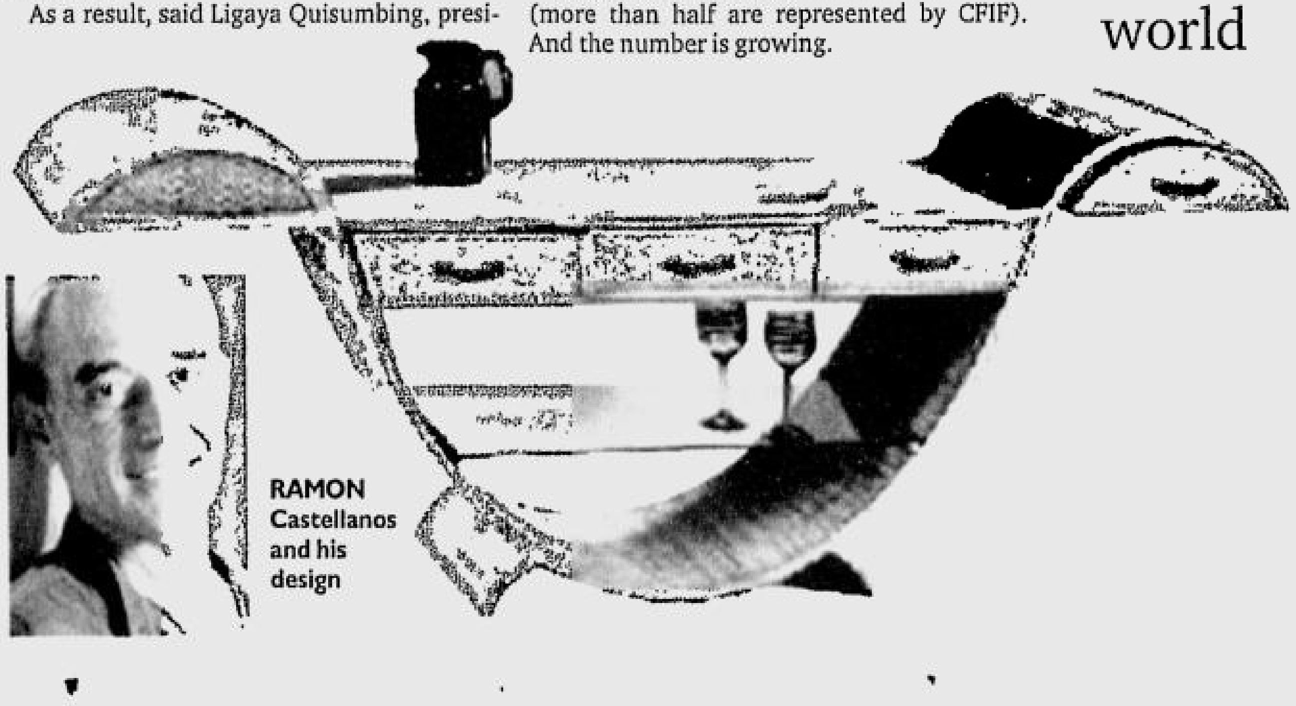
The Guild has also been working with a German design consultancy firm to better penetrate the modern-furniture market in Europe.

This year's Estilo Award for junior designers given by the Designers Guild went to Fernando Villarin of Pacific Traders and Manufacturing Corp. in Mandaue.

Today, even with a recession in the major US market and tough competition from Indonesia and China, Cebu exporters keep their head above water.

"We always stick to our high standards of workmanship and finish," says Charles Streegan, founder of Pacific Traders, who is turning over the reins of the trade to daughter Bernice Montenegro, a graduate of architecture and design in Milan.

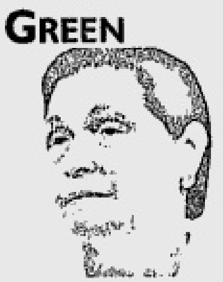
The daughter agrees: "We wouldn't be where we are today if we were not concerned with quality."



RAMON Castellanos and his design

Eco-labeled goods will soon be in local markets

SEEING GREEN



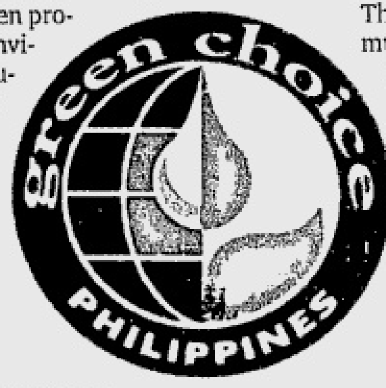
Doris Gaskell Nuyda

BY JUNE this year, Filipinos will see the first product with an eco-label on local market shelves. Eco-labels are long overdue, and it is hoped that even genetically engineered (GE) products will soon have them.

An eco-label certifies that a product has been evaluated for and passed the environmental impact test. The first group of products that underwent evaluation in the country are detergents and soaps, and tissue paper, so the first product to bear the Philippine eco-label, Green Choice, is a synthetic laundry (powder and bar) soap.

Market-driven

Environmental labeling, or eco-labeling, is an international market-driven program designed to reduce environmental impact (e.g. pollution, waste) of products or their processes. Known as ELP, it is one of the programs established by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) that provide guidelines, principles and standards (ISO 14000), including environmental labels (ISO 14204).



THE ELP logo

All labeling programs aim to help improve environmental quality in each country by reducing pollution that unconcerned, non-compliant companies might otherwise cause. There are about 30 different labeling programs implemented in 40 countries worldwide, each country calling its program by a specific name.

In Germany, for example, it's Blue Angel; in Japan, it's Eco Mark; in Canada, Environmental Choice; in the United States, it's Green Seal. The Philippines' Green Choice is the label that will be plastered on every product that passed the criteria for eco-labeling.

In charge of evaluating results and declaring a product as having passed the eco-labeling test is the Clean & Green Foundation Inc. (CGFI), which will serve as the ELP administrator and secretariat.

The CGFI, as a private organization, will work closely with a team of technical experts that will conduct site visits and product testing, and then with the ELP board, composed of officials from different government and private agencies concerned with environmental and consumer protection.

The Philippines' eco-labeling program is an offshoot of the Department of Trade and Industry's Private Sector Participation in Managing the Environment (PRIME) project, which is assisted by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Jica).

The ELP program forges a much-needed partnership between industries and people involved in environmental preservation.

As Amelia M. Ramos, CGFI chair puts it, "ELP provides guidelines to industries that would allow them to adopt environmentally sound practices in the manufacture of their products. ELP also urges consumers to buy products that have been made and marketed with the least environmental impact. In the end, Mother Nature stands to gain, without us sacrificing the sustenance of our needs."

Ramos allays fears by industries that ELP might limit their drive for product development.

"On the contrary, ELP is one avenue where manufacturers may exercise more creativity and corporate responsibility," she said.

Several studies conducted on the subject found that environmentally sound manufacturing processes even lowered production costs, and that consumers now looked for products that allowed them to have environmentally sound lifestyles. One could even say that ELP was a response to the growing need for "sustainable development" on this planet.

ELP certification

To obtain an ELP certification, a company or manufacturer must first apply to the ELP administrator who processes the forms and arranges the site visits and product testing by technical experts.

If the experts' assessment is favorable, the ELP administrator then declares the product as having passed. The ELP board gives its approval and the label or certification is awarded to the applicant. It takes about two months to process applications.

The ELP logo is a sphere divided into two—the dark-blue side represents the earth and symbolizes the global nature of the movement. The other half features a dark-green leaf that represents nature. At the center is a drop of clean water and a bloom that also represents nature. A green band encircling the sphere carries the name "Green Choice Philippines."

> Eco-labeling certifies that manufacturing process isn't harmful to environment

Next for Green Choice

To undergo ELP evaluation next are carbon zinc batteries and packaging material from polyethylene. The criteria are now being drawn up in partnership with the National Solid-Waste Management Commission.

For more information on ELP applications, visit the ELP Secretariat at CGFI headquarters, 2/F Benlife Bldg., BPI Complex, Muralla Street, Intramuros, Manila, call 528-09-76 or e-mail greenchoice@i-manila.com.ph

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com

Furnishings store marks 1st year with month-long sale

GOINGS ON

SHELL Canvas-Podium celebrates its first year of operations at Podium Mall in Ortigas Center with a month-long anniversary sale. Visit Shell Canvas-Podium (tel. 687-4085 to 88) at 3/L of The Podium Mall, e-mail bchua@shellcanvas.com or visit www.shellcanvas.com.

THE HILADO family will hold its third reunion on May 4, 9 a.m., at St. Scholastica's College, Leon Guinto Street, Manila. Family members are enjoined to bring gift items for the raffle. Call Manong Osing at 815-0188 to 90.

THE PHILIPPINE Association of Academic and Research Libraries will be holding a summer conference with the theme "The Role of Libraries in the Promotion of Culture and the Arts," April 30-May 2, at the Bohol Tropics Hotel, Tagbilaran City. Call 524-4611 local 640; 426-6001 local 5814/5809; or 731-3034.

CLASS 1967 of Lopez Provincial High School, Lopez, Quezon, will hold its reunion on May 3 at De Gracia Beach Resort, Brgy. Balubad, Atimonan, Quezon. Call Abelardo F. Panganiban at (0920)287-6034; Benilda D. Arellano-Bicera, (0916) 348-0652; Helen A. Lee-Dinglasan, (042)302-5911; or Vilma C. Gendrano-Anday at (0917) 416-5976.

HOTEL Nikko Manila Garden will hold its employees grand reunion on May 2, 5 p.m., at Milky Way Café, Pasay Road corner Paseo de Roxas, Makati City. Call Rogelio Santos (0917-5320848), Annette Favila (0917-4240824) Paz Romans (0919-5546080) and Elvie Alquino (0917-5012701).

STANCE Talent Management is mounting a summer modeling course. The course will culminate in a grand fashion show featuring graduates of the course. The workshop will start April 26 at Acacia Building, 226 Wilson St., Greenhills, San Juan. Call 920-3083.

THE INTENSIVE Journal, a method of keeping a journal of your life, will be given in three workshops May 26-31 at Maryknoll Ecological Sanctuary, Campo Sioco, Baguio City. The facilitator for this retreat is Sr. Dolores M. Mitch, M.M. Call 442-4602/4926 or e-mail mksbag@mozcom.com

THE SUITE for Jazz Trio by celebrated French composer Claude Bolling, along with the modern works of Astor Piazzola and Juan Cadiz, will close the 2003 Second Pasig Summer Music Festival on April 27, 5 p.m., at Pasig Museum in Pasig City. Call 641-0211, 724-7761 or (0918) 737-6901.

THE PROFESSIONAL Librarian's Review Center is holding a seminar-workshop on Research Methods for Librarians and Teachers until today at Barcelo Sarabia Manor Hotel and Convention Center, Gen. Luna Street, Iloilo City. Call 927-9858.

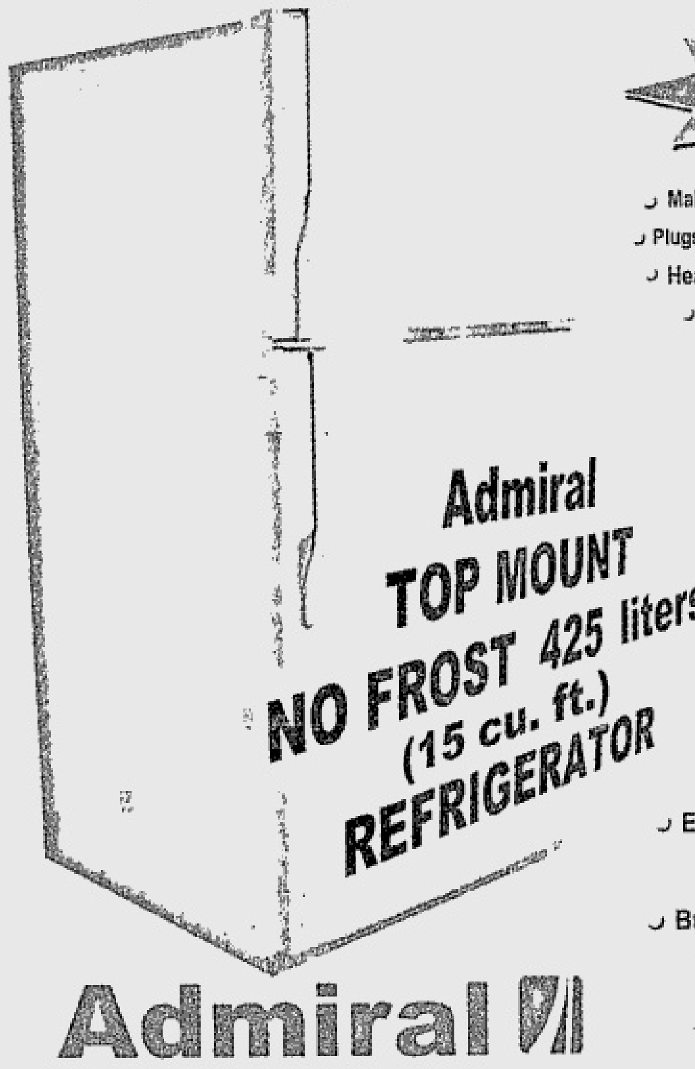
THE CENTER for Human Research and Development Foundation Inc. is holding a seminar-workshop on Effective Records Management for Local Government Units, May 5-6, at Instructional Media Center, University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City. Call 927-9858.

THE PROFESSIONAL Librarian's Review Center is holding a two-day seminar-workshop on "Basic Cataloging Skills (Catskills), the AACR2R and the MARC Format" on May 7-8 at the Instructional Media Center, University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City. Call 927-9858.

A FREE offer this summer!

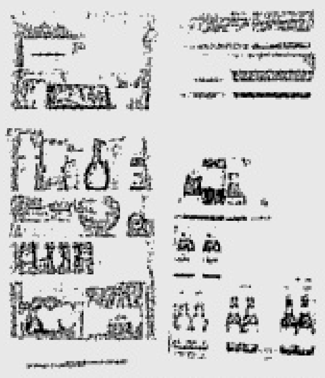
Enjoy your summer trip courtesy of Admiral !!!

For every purchase of a US Made **Admiral** " No Frost 425 liters (15 cu. ft.) 2-door Top Mount Ref ", We are giving away a "**FREE**" Unisphere Carfridge/Warmer worth P2,695.00 that is complete with a 12V accessory for your summer trip. So grab the opportunity to own an Admiral Ref for your home and bring your Unisphere Carfridge/Warmer for free this summer on your vacation trip.



FREE
Carfridge & Warmer

- Makes conventional coolers obsolete
- Plugs into any vehicles 12 volt DC outlet
- Heats up to approx.120°F (49°C)
- Thermoelectric system cools to 45°F (7°C)



- Exactly 425 liters (15 cu. ft.)
- Energy Save control for high & low humidity conditions with the exclusive built-in condensate drier.
- Built-in front surface heater for the prevention of moisture condensing from the outside of the refrigerator during humid weather.
- Balanced Air flow-forced Air System to regulate the amount of chilled air.
- Directed into the fresh food compartment resulting in temperature control.
- 100% CFC free for "ozone" protection

Admiral

Proudly made in the USA

Available at:

SM Appliance Center

BUY SMART
FREE MEMBERSHIP SHOPPING
202 Urbano Velasco Ave. Pinagbuhatan, Pasig City (Tel. #'s 640-9816/640-9765)

Hankyu HOUSEWARE
3rd level Marketplace Mall, Kalentong) (Tel. 5335878)

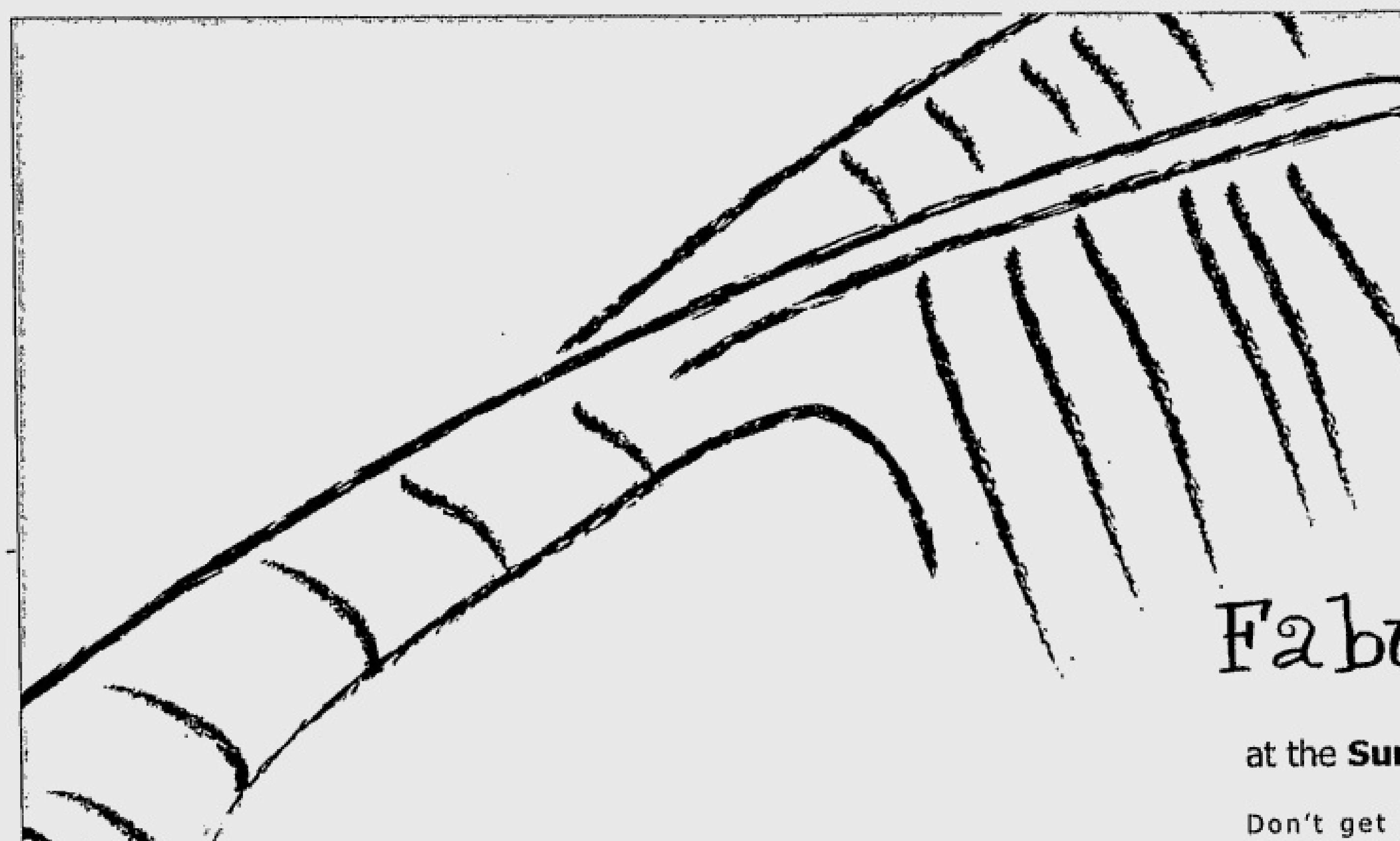
SKYWORLD
SKYWORLD BAGUIO
(074) 4438349

Savers MART
SAVER'S TARLAC- (045)9822883
SAVER'S MALL - (045) 6258111
SAVER'S MART - (045)3220893

Promo Period: April 21 to June 21, 2003

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0939. Series of 2003.

Service by: Unisphere Holdings, Inc.
212 C. Santos St. Bo. Ugong, Pasig City (Tel. 671-5955)



Comb Through Fabulous Summer Finds

at the **Summer Bangketa Fair** of **Greenhills Shopping Center.**

Don't get tangled in a time warp. Get a new look this summer at GSC's Summer Bangketa Fair. With over 1,000 stalls and extended shopping hours 'til 10 P.M. on Fridays and Saturdays, you'll surely find everything you need to look this summer's best.

SHOPPING CENTER
ORTIGAS & COMPANY, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
www.greenhills.com.ph

Enjoy a germ-free home

MAKE your home a safe haven for your little ones. Here are a few tips to make high-traffic areas in your house germ-free and child-friendly:

In the kitchen—Thoroughly clean your hands and cooking tools like cutting boards and knives when preparing meals for your family, to prevent food-borne illnesses. Germs like to picnic in plastic containers and other food-handling materials, so regularly clean out storage areas and the refrigerator to drive bacteria away. After taking out the trash, scrub your hands and disinfect areas your hands may have touched such as refrigerator door, light switches and laundry bin.

In the bedroom or baby's nursery—Children like to play on the floor, pick up small objects and put them in their mouths, so it is important to keep household surfaces properly cleaned, deodorized and disinfected.

The baby's crib, changing table, diaper pail, highchair and toys need regular germicidal wash, while baby items like feeding bottles, nipples and dishes should be sterilized before the child is allowed to handle them.

Pine Sol
Rain Clean
Pine Sol
Meadow Fresh
Pine Sol
Pine Sol

In the bathroom—Keep toilet bowls, tubs, non-slip mats and bathroom surfaces not just clean and fresh-smelling but properly sanitized.

Homemakers can keep high-traffic areas germ-free and truly child-friendly with Pine-Sol from Clorox. Pine-Sol is made of real pine oil that takes care of day-to-day kitchen spills, bathroom grime and high-traffic area dirt. It thoroughly cleans floors and walls, as well as doorknobs, telephones, highchairs, sinks, countertops, stoves, bathtubs, toilets, diaper pails and garbage bins, while leaving a long-lasting, refreshing scent.

Pine-Sol now comes in four variants: Original Pine-Sol, Lemon Fresh Pine-Sol, Meadow Fresh Pine-Sol and Rain Clean Pine-Sol.

Pine-Sol is initially available in selected supermarkets in Greater Manila Area and Luzon.

'Quarantine lifestyle' in the time of SARS

From page G1

sence. A glimpse into terrorism without the explosions and crashes."

That really doesn't sound good. Unfortunately we're all stuck in the same planet. We'll be seeing how SARS will be tweaking lifestyles more and more, every which way.

Come to think of it, I have friends who'll possibly spend this year in "quarantine lifestyle"—10 days in quarantine after a HK or Singapore trip, then, back in HK or Singapore, another 10 days in quarantine after a Manila trip, and so on and so forth.

Here, so far, the lifestyle seems unaffected—knock on wood—except that my staff, I notice, have Alcogel on their desks, and give you the evil look every time you cough.

Sunday night at the movies, as I sat through 'Johnny English" (which, by the way, gave me lower-back pains, from stooping so low to its gross-out toilet humor), and coughed once too often, I had to quiet down my seatmates: "It's only the popcorn, okay?"

Movies with popcorn. For now. We know how to count our blessings. That's what I mean.

Staying in

People stayed in for Holy Week, I mean, in the country. Boracay was where it was at.

Louie Cruz said he'd never seen so many beautiful bodies as he did last week. Coming from Louie, that's really saying a lot. The Boracay scene got the A-1 party crowd apparently, from **Maurice Arcache** to **Celine Lopez.**

Others, however, stayed close to home. Palms Country Club in Alabang—the new exclusive "in" scene in the south, by the way—was a beehive. Even on Good Friday evening, its coffee shop had a good crowd. We spotted **Aga** and **Charlene Muhlach** by the pool.

Who's the 'devil'?

Fashionistas can't wait to get a copy of "The Devil Wears Prada," a novel by **Lauren Weisberger**, because it's a roman a clef about Vogue and its power editor, **Anna Wintour.**

Actually it's been getting bad reviews, from New York Times to Newsweek, because of the thin plot, thinner characterization, and bland writing.

Weisberger worked under Wintour in Vogue and apparently realized there's a (lucrative) life after Vogue—by ratting on your ex-boss. The novel is about the travails of a slave in a fashion magazine, dashing off for a latté for the editor boss, or slipping into Gucci suede pants discarded from a shoot.

According to Newsweek, Weisberger got more than $200,000 in advance for the book and even more from a movie deal.

Reviewing it for New York Times, **Kate Betts**, the ex-Harper's Bazaar editor who also worked under Wintour, apparently doesn't think much of the book.

]She writes: "Having worked at Vogue myself for eight years and having been mentored by Anna Wintour, I have to say Weisberger could have learned a few things in the year she sold her soul to the devil of fashion for $32,500. She had a ringside seat at one of the great editorial franchises in a business that exerts an enormous influence over women, but she seems to have understood almost nothing."

Newsweek's **Cathleen McGuigan** is just as blunt: "'Prada' left me as hungry as a model after a lettuce-leaf lunch..."

However, you know the book will be a hot seller.

Lesson of the story: Be kind to your assistant. You never know when Anvil Publishing will approach her.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@skyinet.net

DON'T YOU THINK YOU DESERVE SOMEONE MORE COMMITTED?

We do.

At the new Going Straight Salons, your satisfaction is a promise we keep from root to tip.

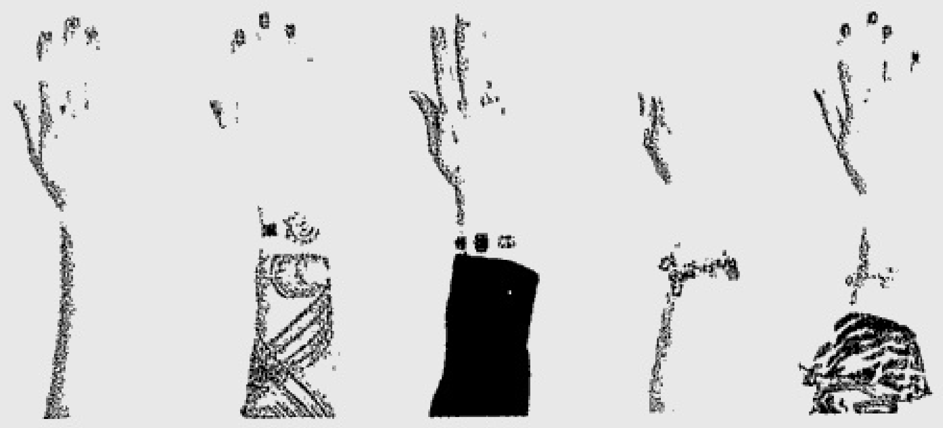
GOING STRAIGHT SALON

Hair Straightening • Color • Treatment • Care

GRAND CENTRAL / 363-6689 • ROBINSON'S PLACE BACOLOD CITY (034) 441-1064 • ROBINSON'S PLACE MANILA / 536-8031 • ROBINSON'S GALLERIA / 632-7322 • MAKATI CINEMA SQUARE 844-2129 • 811-1439 • SM CENTERPOINT / 716-1549 • SM CITY BACOOR / (046) 970-4852 • SM CITY MANILA / 400-5623 • SM NORTH EDSA / 920-3367 • SM FAIRVIEW / 935-7433 • SM MEGAMALL / 633-7048 • SM BICUTAN / 777-9159 • SM PAMPANGA / (045) 961-2125 • SM SOUTHMALL / 805-9611 • SM SUPER CENTER SUCAT / 826-8841 • SM DAVAO / (082) 297-1173 • SM ILOILO / (033) 320-7992 • STA. LUCIA / 681-7437 • CIRCLE C CENTER CONGRESSIONAL AVE. QC / 928-1473 • PRINCE PLAZA II BLDG. GREENBELT / 893-1716 • FESTIVAL MALL ALABANG / 775-0116

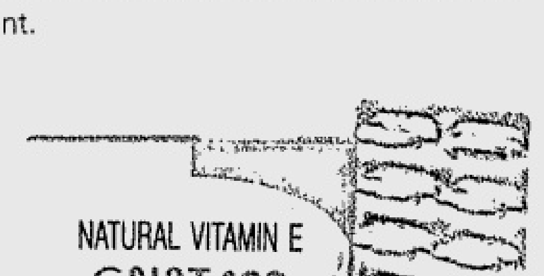
NOW OPEN AT GLORIETTA 2, CLUB FUN, AYALA CENTER, MAKATI / 817-1177

Those who want to look younger, raise your hand.



Today we can look young, be active and attractive at any age, thank God.
And thank God for anti-aging natural Vitamin E ENAT. It is 2-3 times more effective than synthetic Vitamin E in destroying the free radicals that initiate degeneration of the body's tissues and cause premature aging and chronic diseases. ENAT also protects brain cells from free radicals so it prevents the mental effects of aging such as memory loss. So quit worrying about aging, start taking your ENAT. Affordable, comes in blister packs so it's always fresh and potent.

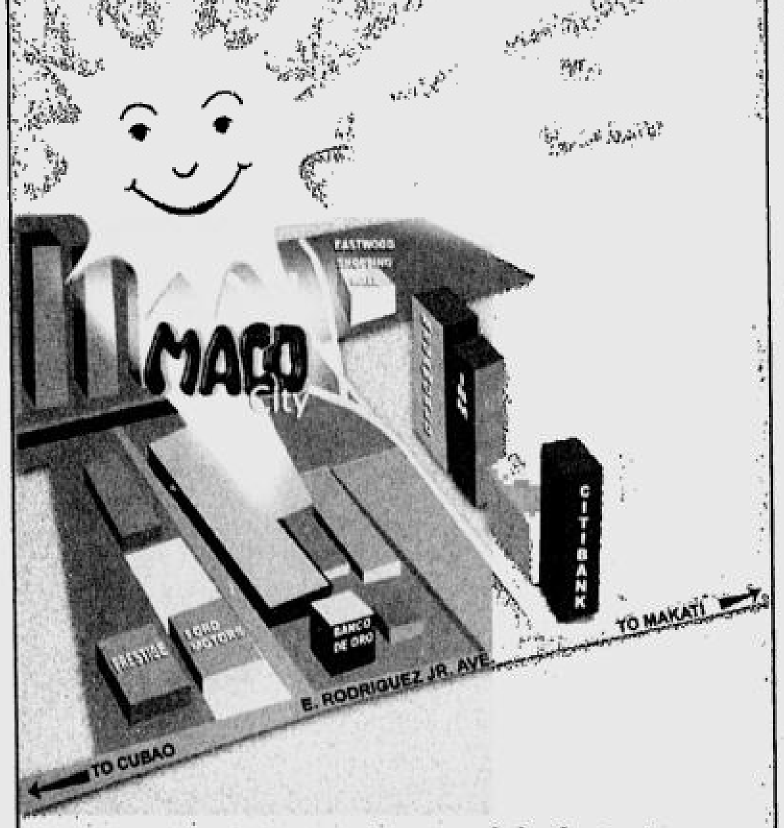
Keep them guessing about your age.



Available at mercury drug and other leading drugstores nationwide.

MEGA We Care.
MEGA Products Ltd.
A NUTRACEUTICAL COMPANY
For inquiries, please contact (632) 837-8560 / 837-8561
or email us at consucare@megaproducts.com

Tomorrow, At Exactly 10:00 a.m. A New Sun Will Rise In Libis!



Watch it reveal some of the hottest names in contemporary home designs.

MACO-Küchen
Germany's leading manufacturer of master-crafted kitchens and furnishing.

SCHERER JARDIN
World-class artificial plants and landscaping.

Lifestyle The Art of Living
European furniture at its finest.

FRANKE
European-made built-in kitchen appliances and accessories.

SHOP TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT AND AVAIL OF BIG, BIG DISCOUNTS!
UP TO 50% OFF!

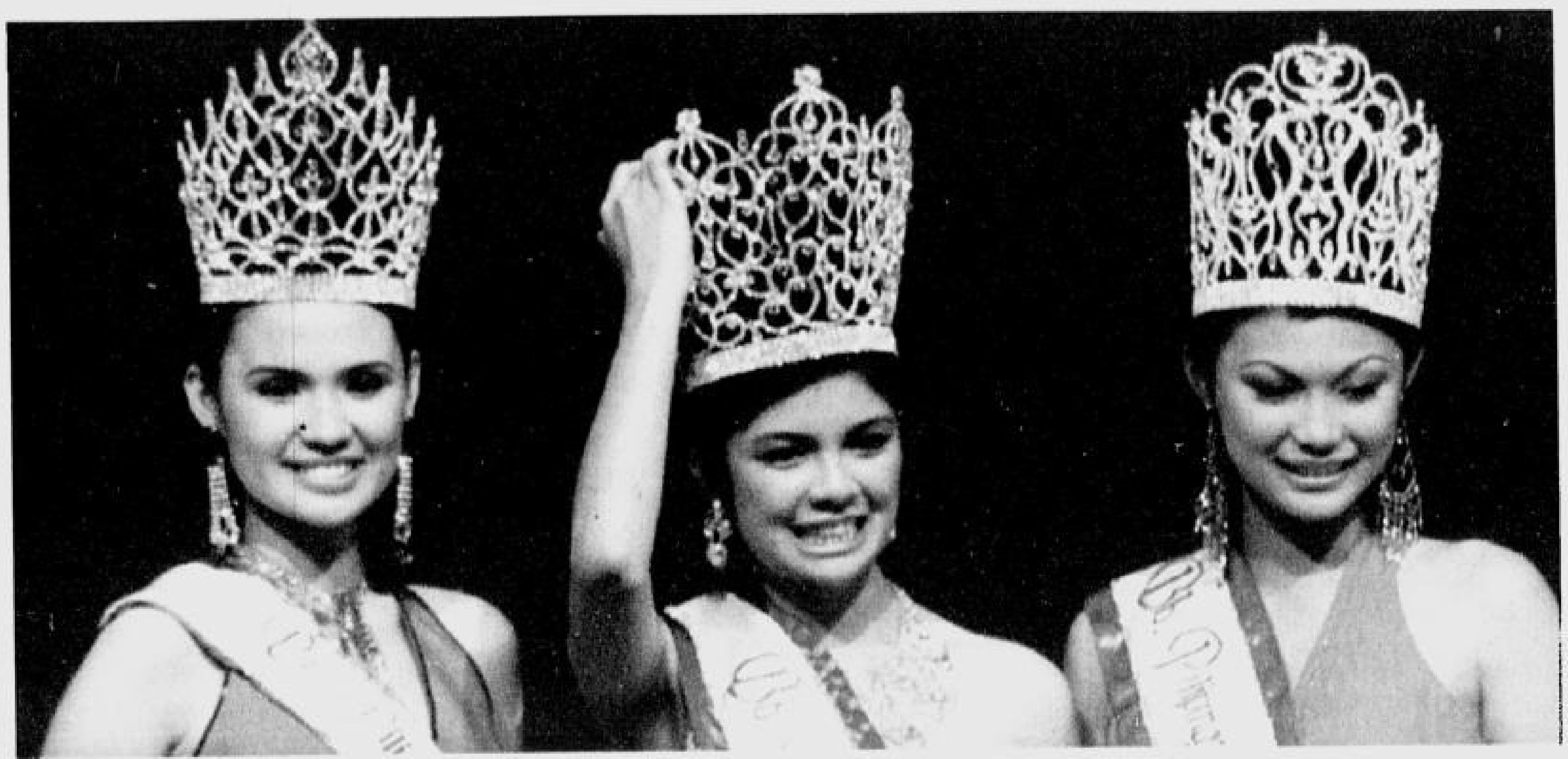
MACO City
The Largest Lifestyle Center in the Philippines

186 E.Rodriguez Jr. Avenue (C-5)
Libis 1110, Quezon City, Phils.
Tel. Nos.: 421-9581 to 83

ENTERTAINMENT

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph
Editor
Louie C. Camino

Get an
X-MEN 2
puzzle FREE!
with every dozen
DUNKIN' DONUTS
Promo period is from April 20 to May 20 2003
Collect all 4 designs



UNEASY lies the crown? This year's winners are (from left) Jhezarie Javier, Carla Gay Balingit, Ma. Rafaela Yunon. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Binibini girls cry 'unfair'

Questions distributed before pageant night, say contestants

By Marinel R. Cruz

HOURS before the latest Binibining Pilipinas finals started last March 16, the contestants were fed the questions that were likely to be asked during the show proper, according to some of the contestants themselves.

One contestant told the INQUIRER that some of them were given the questions a day before the pageant night.

Another contestant, who also confirmed the distribution of the questions, said she saw other candidates preparing answers to some of the questions hours before the Araneta Coliseum show started.

"I know we would be taught how to answer questions, not fed with them," the contestant said.

She said she found it unfair that the questions were given out before the 10 finalists were picked and announced.

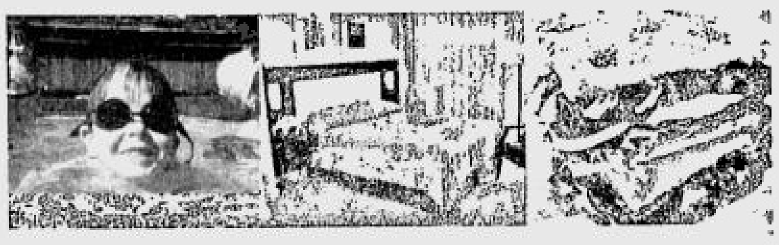
But Lucas Pasiliao, chief executive officer of Uniprom which is in charge of the business and promotion aspect of the pageant, said he is not aware of the list of questions that allegedly circulated before the finals.

"The SGV (Sycip, Gores, Velayo), our official accounting firm, saw through the whole event," Pasiliao said. "They would have told us about this."

Pasiliao referred the INQUIRER to Bb. Pilipinas Charities Inc. project director Ernesto Roca, but Roca was not available for comment until we went to press.

The revelation came only two weeks after Bb. Pilipinas-Universe Carla Gay Balingit left for Colombia to train for the Miss Universe pageant next month.

BINIBINI/ H5


ASTORIA PLAZA
Serviced Residential Suites

Stress Breakers
Two Bedroom Suite, Php4, 950.00 ++/night

But stay for 2 nights, 3rd night free
or stay for a night, 2nd night 50% off
Free "Fun Kit" for Kids
Free Massage for Mom & Dad

Boredom Breakers

Arts & Crafts Lessons
Taekwondo Lessons

Hunger Breakers

Weekend Barbecue
Summer Coolers
Merienda Greats

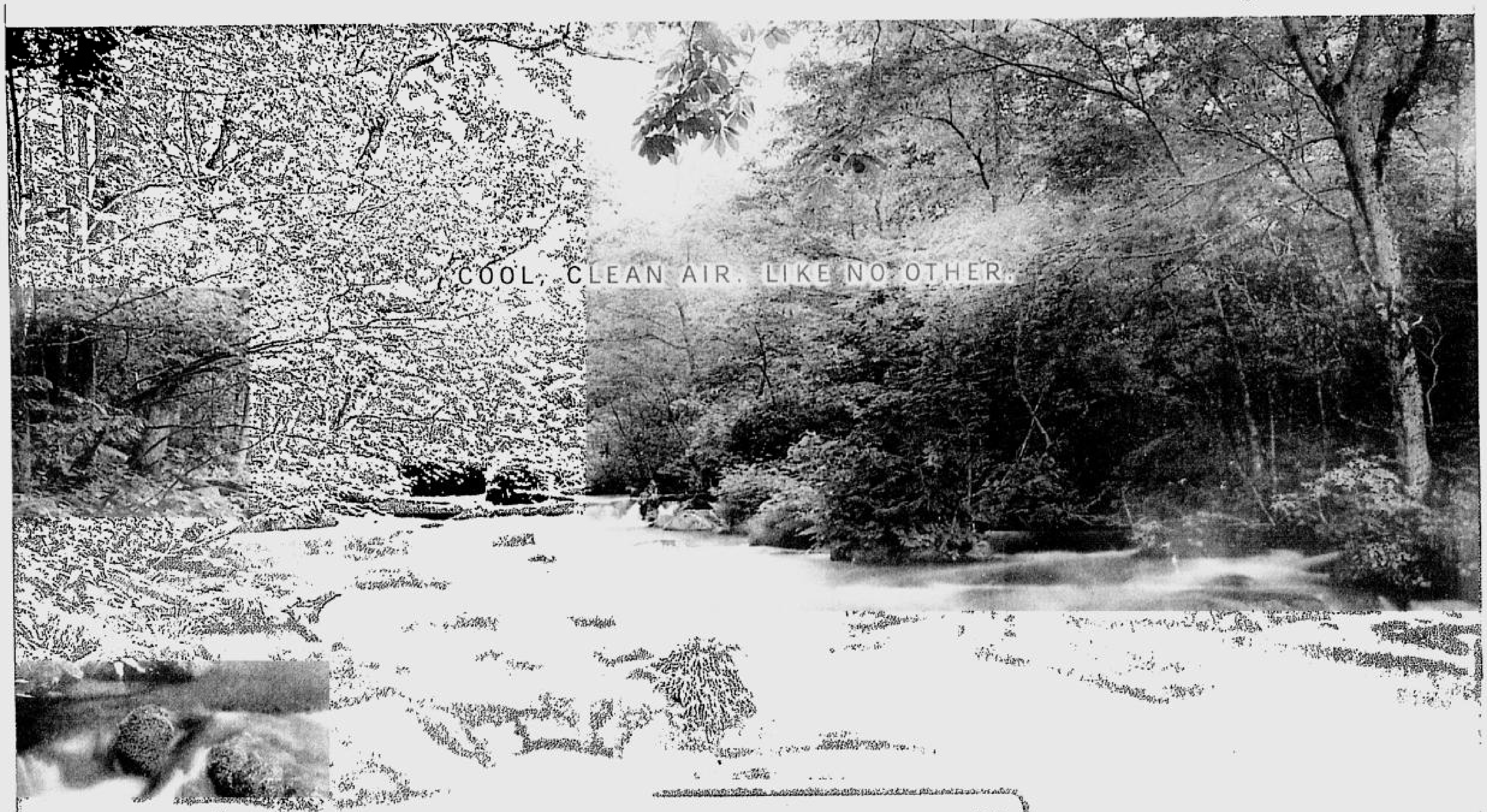
Call us for details of April Breakers
687 1111

Per DTI permit number A2-152 Series of 2003

15 J. Escriva Drive Ortigas, Pasig City Telephone Number 687 1111 E-mail: sales@astoriaplaza.com
Managed with distinction by GENESIS HOTELS & RESORTS www.genesishotels.com

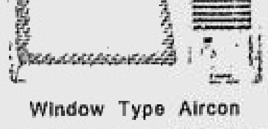
DAIKIN
Room Air Conditioners

Exciting Ai lut on



DAIKIN WALL MOUNTED AIRCON

With Virustatic, Bacteriostatic & Deodorising Functions


Window Type Aircon

With Daikin, you don't need to go far to enjoy cool, clean air. All you have to do is switch on your room aircon and you'd feel like you're just a breath away from nature's embrace. Because it has a power-packed compressor and superior air filter that guarantee high-cooling efficiency and maximum air purification.

Treat yourself with a Daikin room aircon today and enjoy cool, clean air from Japan's preeminent name in air conditioning systems.

Cooling the Towers of the World for Over 75 years.

DAIKIN
DAIKIN-ALEN
AIR CONDITIONING, INC.

Tel. (632) 712-2144 (TL), 415-2276 (DL)

More shows end up as blatant tearjerkers

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

NOW that soap operas are the rage on TV, other television programs appear to be trying to get their share of the tearjerker action.

We've noticed of late that even newscasts are now presenting crime stories with a high emotional content. A woman beaten up by her husband is goaded to tearfully lash out at him at the police precinct, and the husband ends up on his knees, begging pitifully for a last chance to atone for his violent behavior against her.

Magazine shows are also going for the emotional jugular, going to town with stories about hungry streetchildren, charity patients in hospitals, crazy people in the streets, etc.

Initially, the intent is supposed to be to expose these poor people's plight and get NGOs or the government to help them. After a while, however, we see that the focus has shifted to the needy people's copious tears and emotional protestations, and the otherwise laudable features end up as blatant tearjerkers.

Finally, we note that even on the new talent search competition, "Star in a Million" on "ASAP Mania," tears are sometimes being elicited from the contestant. Background features are done on them to detail the pathetic and bathetic reasons why they're determined to win the top prize in the singing tilt.

Before we know it, the contestant is weeping away, very much like an actor on a TV soap. It's so disconcerting to see contestants in a singing contest behaving in this bathetic manner, and we hope the show nixes this wrongheaded gimmick instantly.

License to elicit laughter

SOME months ago, we were shocked to read in the entertainment press that British comedian **Rowan Atkinson** had died. What a waste, we thought, he was still relatively young and had many productive years left.

Well, it happily turns out that the comedian's obit was decidedly premature, a fake report filed by morbid pranksters. Atkinson is starring in the current film, "Johnny English," in which he spoofs British secret agents, led by the quintessential ultra-sophisticated spy, James Bond.

Atkinson's version has a license not to kill, but to elicit laughter. He's a junior intelligence officer whose activities have been pretty much restricted to the office, but is suddenly called out to the field to save the day for the good guys.

The character was first created for a series of credit card commercials, and proved so popular that his transition to the big screen was only a matter of time.

How different is Johnny English to Atkinson's signature hit character, Mr. Bean? "He's much nicer than Bean," Atkinson observes. "He may be a klutz, but viewers root for him because his heart's in the right place, even if his head isn't.

"He's a lowly desk clerk in the beginning, but he suddenly rockets to the top of the British Secret Service because all the other agents have been killed. Sadly, he's not as good as he thinks he is, and that's what a lot of the movie's comedy feeds off."

Since spy spoofs are in season, what with the popularity of the "Austin Powers" movies, isn't Atkinson worried that he's coming onto the scene rather late, and that "Johnny English" will be unfairly compared to "Austin Powers"?

"Not really, because the tone is different. Austin Powers is far-out wacky and even surreal in its humor, while Johnny English is less over the top, but still very funny," Atkinson points out.

Worthy sequel

SINCE its 1967 release, Disney has reissued "The Jungle Book," inspired by **Rudyard Kipling**'s stories, many times. It even made a live-action, direct-to-video sequel in 1998. But young viewers have been clamoring for a new big-screen follow up, so Disney has now come up with a big-screen, animated sequel, "The Jungle Book, 2."

This time around, Mowgli (voiced by **Haley Joel Osment**) lives in a village with his adoptive family, but periodically finds the need to return to his roots in the jungle. He misses Baloo (**John Goodman**), a sweet-natured creature Mowgli calls Papa Bear.

But the villagers regard the jungle as dangerous and Mowgli's adoptive father prohibits him from entering it. However, Mowgli is too homesick to resist, so he disobeys his father. A concerned friend, Shanti, follows in search of him.

Other creatures Mowgli encounters in the jungle are a wise black panther, Bagheera; a menacing tiger, Shere Khan; a hypnotic snake, Kaa; and Lucky (**Phil Collins**), the leader of a pack of cackling buzzards.

Feedback

FROM **Uri R. Rodriguez** of Quezon City: "Thanks a lot for your recent column, 'The Work Is Here.' It helped me get a clearer focus on what I really want to do in the arts, and where I should do it. Instead of going abroad, there's really so much to do here.

"With some of my friends, I've put up a small group to do workshops and exhibits in different parts of the country. We hope that we can make even a small impact here, where it's needed most."

'RENT' THE CONCERT

Overdue but restrictive

By Vladimir S. Bunoan
Contributor

REVIEW

NEARLY five years after the Manila premiere of "Rent" at the Music Museum, director Bobby Garcia is still collecting kudos and box-office money from the award-winning musical about young New York City artists battling commercialism and AIDS in the upbeat 1990s.

After taking "Rent" to Singapore, where it garnered praise and controversy for its homosexual sub-themes, and after embarking on a second Manila run in 2001, Garcia gathered many of the musical's original Manila cast members for a one-night-only concert version of the successful production at Onstage in Greenbelt.

Calvin Millado as the AIDS-infected former rock star junkie Roger and J.M. Rodriguez as the struggling filmmaker Mark reprised their lead roles as best friends who share a decrepit flat with no heat, along with Michael de Mesa as Collins, an intellectual suffering from AIDS.

The three actors have formed the core of "Rent" through its numerous stagings both here and in Singapore, and they effortlessly brought their memorable characters back to life despite the absence of the musical's original stage blocking.

Big talent

Fresh from her acclaimed performance in "Dreamgirls," Bituin Escalante played lesbian lawyer Joanne, a part she played in the 2001 version.

Escalante was part of the chorus during the play's original run, but with a gospel solo in the musical's most memorable song, "Seasons of Love," audiences quickly took note of her enormous singing talent.

Playing opposite Escalante again was Anna Fegi as Joanne's performance artist girlfriend, Maureen. Originally played by Monique Wilson, Fegi was given this scene-stealing role for the Singapore and Manila 2001 runs.

TV host and actor Carlo Ledesma finally, and deservedly, gets the spotlight to himself as the play's main villain and resident yuppie scum, Benny. Ledesma was the understudy for the part through the various "Rent" reincarnations, playing alternate to Jaimie Wilson and Singaporean actor Brendan Fernandez.

Showy part

Amparo Sietereales played the play's romantic female lead, Mimi, a coke-addict stripper also stricken with AIDS, during the original run, although pop star Rachel Alejandro took on the role in Singapore and in the 2001 version.

The role of Angel, the transvestite with a heart of gold, has been played by several actors in the past.

Ricci Chan, now an in-demand makeup artist, was the first to don the short Santa Claus dress, while veteran performer and Miss Saigon veteran Jake Macapagal did the cross-dressing role in subsequent shows.

For the concert version, upcoming actor Nyoy Volante, who was part of the "Dreamgirls" chorus, was given the showy part.

Doing a concert version of a popular musical is not new. For the 10th anniversary of "Les Miserables," producer Cameron Mackintosh staged an elaborate concert of the musical in London featuring the most outstanding actors who have appeared in the long-running theatrical spectacle, including Lea Salonga as Eponine.

Difficult time

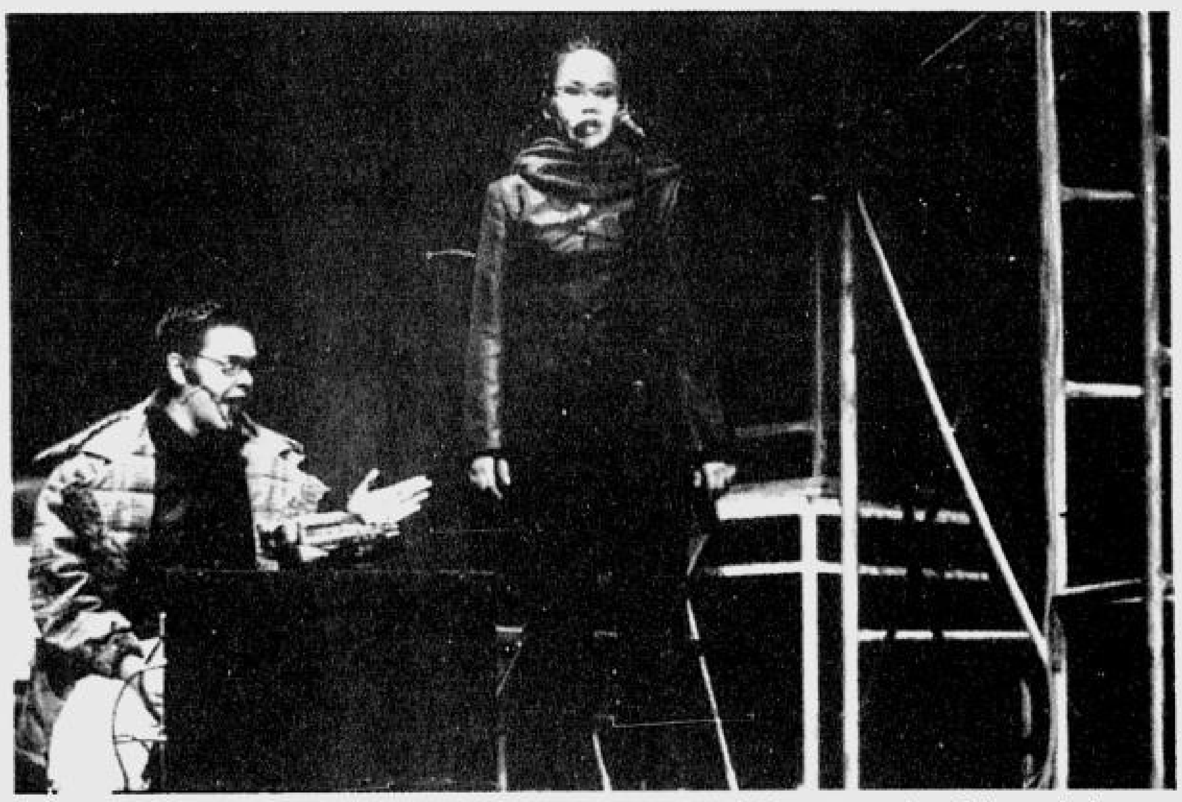
Opera groups in the US have also staged chamber versions of several Stephen Sondheim masterpieces.

But while "Rent" was based on an opera (Puccini's "La Boheme"), the music hardly fits the genre. "Rent" is unabashedly modern in terms of score and lyrics, ranging from ear-splitting pop rock to R&B-flavored dance tunes and powerful ballads.

Audiences who have not seen "Rent" before may have a difficult time following the story, especially with the many complicated counterpoints and overlaps in scenes. Which was how I felt when I first heard the CD before I saw the musical on stage.

This special performance was probably seen by ardent "Rentheads," the musical's zealous fans. But despite, or perhaps because of, their familiarity with the material, some sense of emotion was missing from the concert version.

"Rent" always had a busy stage direction, with several scenes happening at the same time. Audiences missed, for example, the crucial development in the relationship between Collins and Angel, including parts that showed Angel suffering from the final stages of AIDS, such that when Collins does the reprise of "I'll Cover You," it wasn't as devastating for the viewer.



CRAMPED. JM Rodriguez and Bituin Escalante in the original Music Museum version of the musical, complete with props

Diva duel

But in some ways, the concert improved on the narrative, particularly during the multi-part counterpoints.

With the shotgun staging, and the actors approaching the microphone stands during their part, it was easier to follow who's singing what line. This particularly helped in clarifying Roger's angst.

"Rent in Concert" also heightened several solos. With the focus basically on the singing (or performance as in the case of Maureen's "Over the Moon" number), it's a real treat to see the diva-duel of Escalante and Fegi, both pop singers, in "Take Me or Leave Me," with their forceful vocals.

Volante may not have the grace and flair of Chan or Macapagal, but in terms of singing, he was as pitch-perfect as Angel that listening to him was almost like listening to the CD.

Still, the format was also obviously restrictive. You could feel that Rodriguez was dying to break free from the straight-line staging and even some chorus members had a lot of pent-up energy waiting to burst.

Miscue

The concert's weakest element was the backup band, which needed more time to get used to the score.

One of the main blunders of the show was a miscue to "I'll Cover You (Reprise)," which unfortunately stalled the emotion going into the play's main dramatic highlight.

And, inasmuch as she scored a career breakthrough as Mimi in the original run, Sietereales' brand of detached underplay was ineffective in the setup. Given the concert style, it would have been more powerful to have Alejandro in the role, who knows her way around a ballad like "Without You" and "Goodbye Love." Instead, Alejandro appeared for the encore of "Love Heals," which was written by "Rent" composer Jonathan Larson, and a reprise of "Seasons of Love."

Then again, maybe time has caught up with the cast of "Rent" as well as its core followers. The concert version was a nice gift to many Rentheads, but maybe what it needs now is a dose of fresh blood and energy.

Do I hear revival?

EXECUTIVE BAND. D' Mascots (standing from left) Manny Tan, Dr. Antonio Mateo, Ramon Lim, Engr. Ruben Tan, Engr. Egay Quiros, Peter Ching; (seated from left) Archie Averilla, Honesto Quiros, Lawrence Sobremonte, Ulysses Isaac and Frederick Soon.

D'Mascots Band is back

AFTER 30 years, D' Mascots Band, composed of original members from Hope Christian High School, takes a second shot at musical glory.

Three decades after they packed up, they found themselves complete in a get-together to welcome back an old member, Peter, who had migrated to Canada.

Fortified with new recruits, the band is presently composed of nearly a dozen members who are professionals in their chosen fields.

"We are an executive band," explains band leader and bassist Manny Tan.

So far, the band has done regular gigs in hotels, private affairs and corporate shows.

On April 26, D' Mascots Band will switch on the groove button at the Bellevue Hotel, the newest happening place in Ayala Alabang.

The group will unleash the undying spirit of the '60s, with songs from the Beatles, Dave Clark 5, Zombies, Lettermen and many others, adding a little '70s flavor.

"We call ourselves Weekend Warriors," shares Peter Ching, who aside from managing a corporation engaged in franchising, gamely plays rhythm for the band, after 20 years of not touching his guitar.

New member Ulysses Isaac is BPI bank manager and the band's vocalist.

Lawrence Sobremonte is another vocalist whose day job is to manage his own trading company.

ABS-CBN honors Filipino 'heroes'

SHOW TIME

AMIDST the multitude of trials Filipinos face daily, a group of individuals still stand out as an example that integrity, generosity and social concern still burn in the hearts of our countrymen.

These individuals will be honored once again tonight, as ABS-CBN Broadcasting stages its Bayaning Pilipino Awards 2002-2003.

The awards recognize individuals, families and organizations who have contributed significantly to the improvement of the lives of other Filipinos.

The project, a joint effort by ABS-CBN and the Ugat Foundation, was first established in 1995 and has since become an important tradition of the network.

The event also pays homage to the late ABS-CBN chair emeritus and Bayaning Pilipino co-founder Eugenio Lopez Jr., whose ideals and virtues exemplify the values espoused in the awards.

Described as today's living heroes who have performed extraordinary service to their "kababayans," this year's 23 finalists include Filipinos from different regions and from various countries in the Asia Pacific.

One winner will be chosen from each of the following categories: Bayaning Pilipino (individual), Bayaning Pamilyang Pilipino (family), Bayaning Samahang Pilipino (institution), Bayaning Pilipino sa Asya Pasipiko (OFW) and the Bayaning Gurong Pilipino (teacher).

Six outstanding Filipinos have been selected to be finalists this year for the "Bayaning Pilipino" category: Alejandria Dacquel is a teacher and catechist who has made it her mission to help street children in Quiapo; Vienvenida' Tacang from Plaridel is a staunch lobbyist for the mangroves in their area; Emeterio Abellanida, Sr. is a community leader who has helped uplift the lives of the people in his barangay; Erlinda Cabanal, a teacher in T'murok, Saranggani Province has helped improve the living conditions of the B'laan tribe by establishing a literacy program and a cooperative; Guadalupe Baring is a volunteer who regularly visits a Cebu jail to teach and give counsel to youth offenders; and Juliana Ciervo is a compassionate neighbor who willingly helps others, even working at the local hospital in order to pay for a friend's bills.

They are all simple people who choose to quietly work for and serve other people. They were all chosen for possessing outstanding moral integrity and a strong sense of being pro-Filipino, pro-people and pro-poor. Their stories of courage, leadership and selflessness highlight the best of what a Filipino can be.

San Beda College Chorale stages farewell concert

THE SAN Beda College Chorale, the resident choir of the College of Arts and Sciences of San Beda College, stages its farewell concert, "Tayo'y mga Pinoy," April 26, 7:30 p.m. at the Phil-Amlife Auditorium.

The choir was declared the Olympic champion in the 2002 Choir Olympics held in Busan, Korea.

The choir also won first place in the NAMCYA and Himig ng Koro last year.

The concert features a repertoire that dates back from the French chansons of the 14th century to the Filipino avant-garde compositions of Ruben Federizon, a noted Filipino choral composer.

The choir will also render the Josh Groban hit, "You're Still You," Puccini's "Nessun Dorma" and the a cappella version of Peter Cetera's "Hard to Say I'm Sorry."

The San Beda College Chorale will embark on its 2003 European Tour from April 29 to July 14 and will participate in the 6th International Choir Festival in Bad Ishl,

SAN BEDA/ H7

OFF TO EUROPE. To participate in choral festivals in Austria and Italy.

Yilmaz's parents finally see his wedding to Ruffa—on video

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

THE PARENTS of **Yilmas Bektas— Muhitin Bektas** and **Nurhan Celik**— have finally given their blessing to their son, who married **Ruffa Gutierrez** in Manila without their knowledge.

When Yilmaz left Istanbul two days before his March 25 wedding to Ruffa, he was "escaping" from the family house, since his parents didn't want him to travel with the US-led war raging in Iraq.

Yilmaz travelled nearly 30 hours and crossed four continents to make it to his wedding. When he returned to Turkey with the videotape of the wedding, his parents were initially surprised, but they later accepted that their son had finally tied the knot with the star from the Philippines.

Yilmaz's parents, siblings and other relatives watched the wedding video and were surprised when they saw former First Lady **Imelda Marcos** as one of the guests in the reception at The NBC Tent.

They apparently knew Mrs. Marcos well.

One of Yilmaz's relatives even remarked, "Where are her shoes?"

This weekend, Yilmaz is set to join Ruffa in Los Angeles where they will go house-hunting. Ruffa's parents, **Eddie Gutierrez** and **Annabelle Rama**, will also fly to L.A. today to help the couple find their house.

According to Annabelle, Ruffa has been bored waiting for her date with the stork.

"She's used to working a lot and now that she's five months pregnant, all she does is stay at home and eat," Annabelle said.

"But when I get there (L.A.), I will accompany her in going around," she adds.

Sexy Jake

JAKE Roxas, former boy-next-door material and also a TV comedian, now goes sexy for the first time in a movie, in Regal Entertainment's sex-drama, "Xerex."

The **Mel Chionglo** trilogy was inspired by stories from the tabloid sex column of the same title.

Jake, who stars in the sex-comedy episode, bares his body and figures in naughty love scenes with **Aubrey Miles**. At first, he thought it would be a breeze working with Aubrey, who was his former costar in the sitcom "Beh Bote Nga" on GMA 7.

"But first day *pa lang ng* shooting *namin*, sex scenes *na agad* and Aubrey went topless, so we felt a little awkward," he recalls.

"But we later became comfortable working together again."

SHOWING SKIN in "Xerex," Jake Roxas sheds his boy-next-door image, with the help of Aubrey Miles (inset)

Despite the sexy scenes, Jake says, "I will never be convinced to show my private parts onscreen."

He is not even comfortable being branded a "hunk," he says.

"It was hard to say no to a Mel Chionglo film," he says, explaining his acceptance of the "Xerex" role. "After reading three pages of the script, I said yes. Never mind if it's not a full-length role."

The other two episodes of "Xerex" introduces two other hunks, Bench model **Jon Hall** and former MBA cager **Khalani Ferreira**.

In his episode, Jake plays a kiss-and-tell campus heartthrob who has a scandalous one night of sex with Aubrey.

In real life, Jake insists he is "not the absolute jerk" that he played in the movie.

"I'm quiet, but funny and fun-loving," he says. "I'm always romantic with my girlfriends and I end up being friends with them. My only quirk is that I'm too jealous."

He admits that six years ago, after appearing in a shampoo commercial, he agreed to do his first movie because he wanted to buy a new Honda Civic. He wanted to sell his old Toyota Corolla GLI, but the money wasn't enough for a Honda Civic. When Viva Films asked him to play a supporting role in "Laging Naroon Ka," which starred **Angelu de Leon** and **Bobby Andrews**, he accepted.

But his initial "bread trip" became a more serious pursuit after the Star Awards honored him trophy as best new male personality.

According to his earlier reputation, he was short-tempered, which never advanced his career. He got into a rift with **Jay Altarejos**, a costar in the telenovela "Halik sa Apoy."

Now, Jake says he is cooler and he promises he will always choose to avoid even an argument.

Regine is 33

BIRTHDAY GIRL. Regine Velasquez got a surprise party, with Martin Nievera among her guests.

REGINE Velasquez turned 33 last April 22.

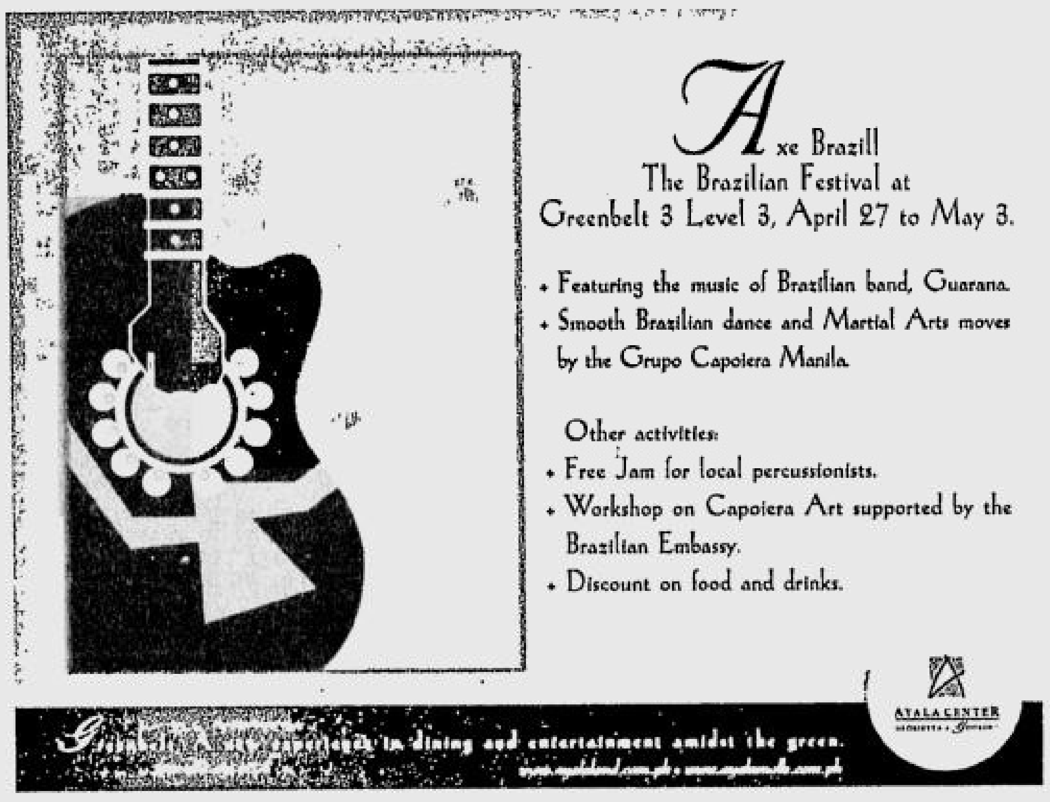
The night before her birthday, after the wrap of her shooting with **Christopher de Leon** (of a still untitled Viva Films movie) at the Alabang Town Center, a surprise party was held for her at Krokodile Bar at the Festival Super Mall.

Regine was indeed surprised, especially when she saw **Martin Nievera** among her well-wishers.

She and Martin had just come from a very successful month-long, five-city concert tour in the United States, where they reportedly broke Filipino community records in ticket sales and attendance.

Regine and Martin performed in Chicago, Hawaii, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Regine and Martin will bring their show to Araneta Coliseum on May 9 and 10, produced by Maxi-Media International.



Axe Brazill
The Brazilian Festival at
Greenbelt 3 Level 3, April 27 to May 3.

- Featuring the music of Brazilian band, Guarana.
- Smooth Brazilian dance and Martial Arts moves by the Grupo Capoiera Manila.

Other activities:

- Free Jam for local percussionists.
- Workshop on Capoiera Art supported by the Brazilian Embassy.
- Discount on food and drinks.

[illegible] experiences in dining and entertainment amidst the green.
AYALA CENTER

Did You Know...

Parañaque **Mayor Joey Marquez** and **Kris Aquino** are apparently together again, despite repeated public denials. Kris and Joey were seen smooching at the birthday party of **Richard Gomez**, held in the Greenhills, San Juan house of Richard and wife **Lucy Torres**. The witness said Joey and Kris were kissing "like there was no tomorrow." At the Star Awards for the Movies where she won best supporting actress, Kris had dedicated her award to "the two Js in my life," apparently referring to her son Joshua (with ex-companion Phillip Salvador) and Joey. Richard and Joey have been friends since ABS-CBN's "Palibhasa, Lalake." Both are now with GMA 7.

The Ultimate Destination in
ARCADE GAMING
ENTERTAINMENT is finally here!!!

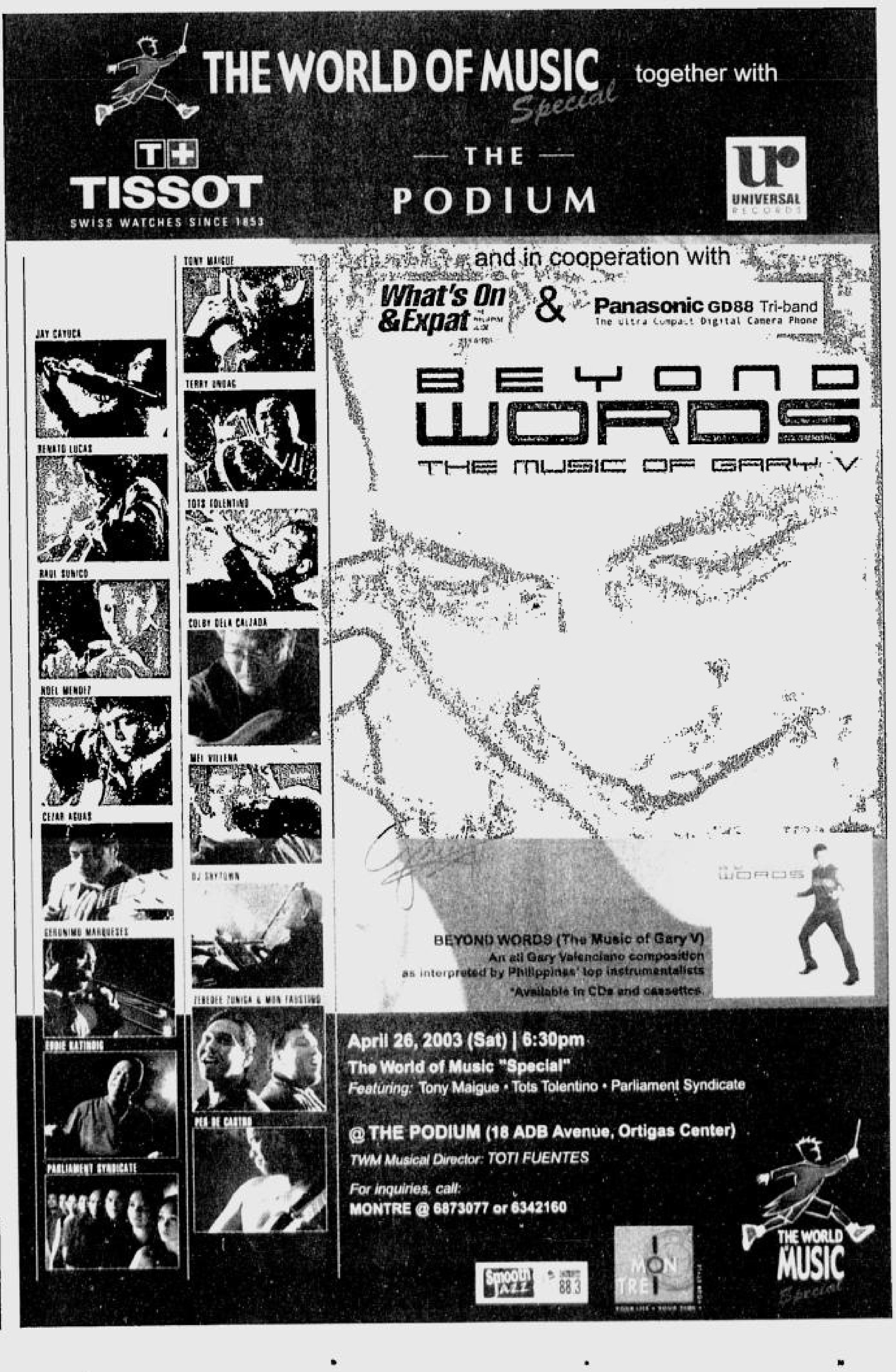
Experience maximum fun with Dream Zone's wide selection of new video machines, exciting redemption games, top-of-the-line redemption booths, computer network games, kiddie rides, thrill fun rides, and a lot more!

First-Class Facilities.
Fully Air-Conditioned.
Free Admission.

ARCADE OPERATED BY:
box
QUANTUM AMUSEMENT

DREAMZONE
LOCATED AT LEVEL 3 ROBINSONS PLACE MANILA.

FOR MORE INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TELEPHONE NUMBERS 302-0084 OR 3020076.
Check out other Dreamzone outlets located at Robinsons Metro East, Robinsons Starmils Pampanga, Robinsons Place Imus and Robinsons Place Ilo-ilo.



THE WORLD OF MUSIC Special together with
TISSOT SWISS WATCHES SINCE 1853
— THE — PODIUM
UNIVERSAL RECORDS
and in cooperation with
What's On & Expat & Panasonic GD88 Tri-band The Ultra Compact Digital Camera Phone
BEYOND WORDS
THE MUSIC OF GARY V

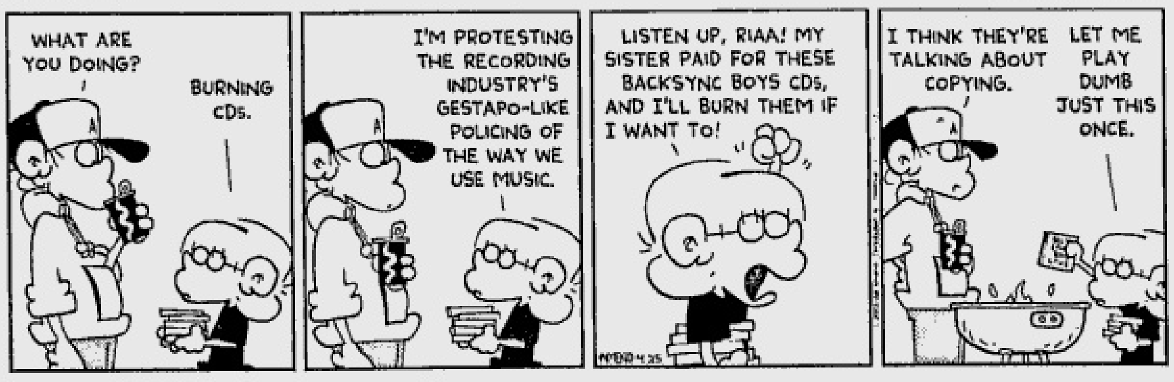
BEYOND WORDS (The Music of Gary V)
An all Gary Valenciano composition
as interpreted by Philippines' top instrumentalists
*Available in CDs and cassettes.

April 26, 2003 (Sat) | 6:30pm
The World of Music "Special"
Featuring: Tony Maigue • Tots Tolentino • Parliament Syndicate

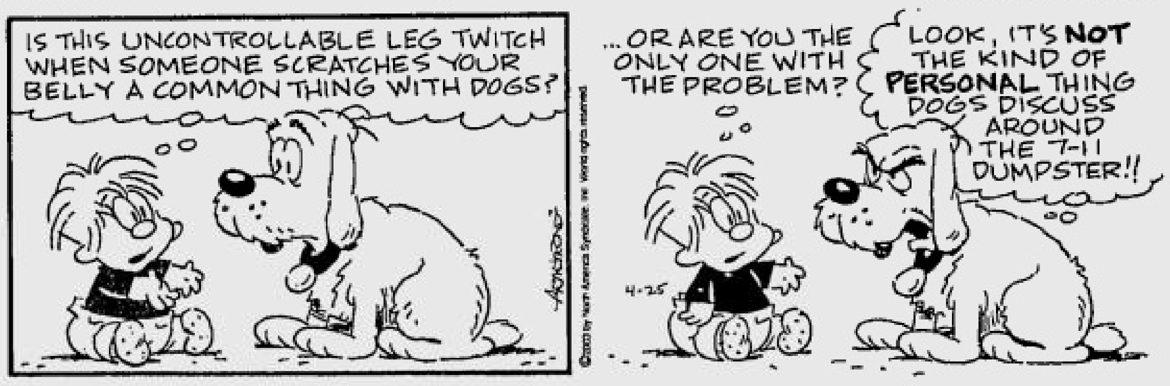
@ THE PODIUM (18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center)
TWM Musical Director: TOTI FUENTES
For inquiries, call:
MONTRE @ 6873077 or 6342160

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
ComicRelief
e-mail feedback at arts@inquirer.com.ph
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2003

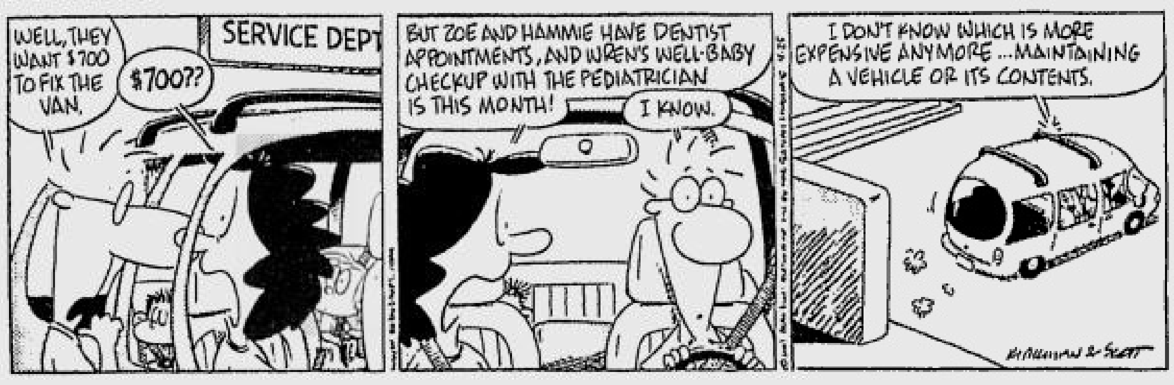
FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
BURNING CDs.
I'M PROTESTING THE RECORDING INDUSTRY'S GESTAPO-LIKE POLICING OF THE WAY WE USE MUSIC.
LISTEN UP, RIAA! MY SISTER PAID FOR THESE BACKSYNC BOYS CDs, AND I'LL BURN THEM IF I WANT TO!
I THINK THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT COPYING.
LET ME PLAY DUMB JUST THIS ONCE.
AMEND 4-25

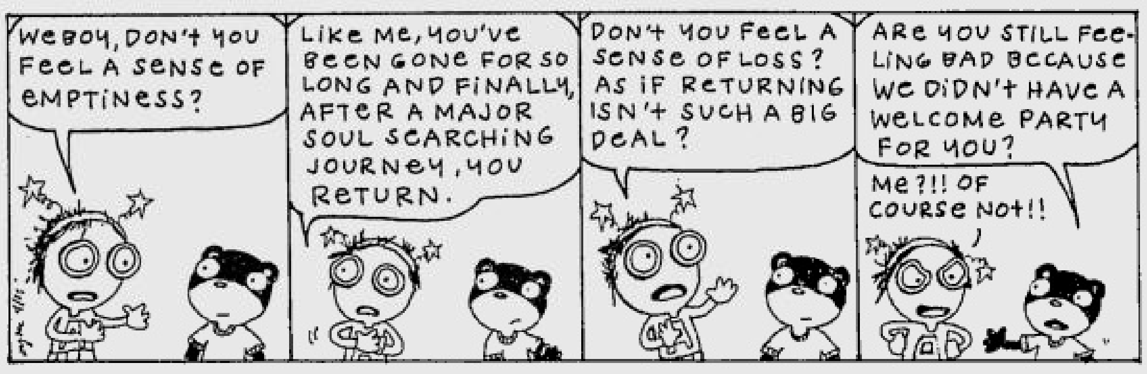
MARVIN BY TOM ARMSTRONG


IS THIS UNCONTROLLABLE LEG TWITCH WHEN SOMEONE SCRATCHES YOUR BELLY A COMMON THING WITH DOGS?
...OR ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE WITH THE PROBLEM?
LOOK, IT'S NOT THE KIND OF PERSONAL THING DOGS DISCUSS AROUND THE 7-11 DUMPSTER!!
ARMSTRONG
4-25

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT


SERVICE DEPT
WELL, THEY WANT $700 TO FIX THE VAN.
$700??
BUT ZOE AND HAMMIE HAVE DENTIST APPOINTMENTS, AND WREN'S WELL-BABY CHECKUP WITH THE PEDIATRICIAN IS THIS MONTH!
I KNOW.
I DON'T KNOW WHICH IS MORE EXPENSIVE ANYMORE ...MAINTAINING A VEHICLE OR ITS CONTENTS.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

ATOMO AND WEBOY BY LYRA GARCELLANO


WEBOY, DON'T YOU FEEL A SENSE OF EMPTINESS?
LIKE ME, YOU'VE BEEN GONE FOR SO LONG AND FINALLY, AFTER A MAJOR SOUL SEARCHING JOURNEY, YOU RETURN.
DON'T YOU FEEL A SENSE OF LOSS? AS IF RETURNING ISN'T SUCH A BIG DEAL?
ARE YOU STILL FEELING BAD BECAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE A WELCOME PARTY FOR YOU?
ME?!! OF COURSE NOT!!

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are strong and independent. You create systems and structures in the world. You love to implement new ideas. You enjoy life and see it as a great garden that needs care and watering. You are a philosopher at heart. This year can be one of the most fortunate years of your life. Expect a miracle.
Birthdate of: Jet Li, martial artist/actor; Carol Burnett, comedienne/actress; Joan Chen, director/actress.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Expect to run into people you worked with before or previous situations connected with employment and finances. Avoid starting new financial ventures until after May 20.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Without question, many of you will run into ex-partners and ex-spouses. They say that living well is the best revenge. If so, look sharp and dress well!

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Don't worry about vague feelings of doubt and indecision that plague you now and in the next few weeks. This is a temporary thing that will soon disappear.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): You can definitely expect to run into old friends now. (In fact, it's probably already started.) Enjoy trading lies and comparing histories.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): You might have an opportunity in the next month to have a second kick at the proverbial can. A previous career situation could arise again to give you a second chance at something.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): If you are planning to travel during the next month, it is preferable that you visit someplace you have been to before. Double-check everything, because delays and errors are likely.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22); The next few weeks are definitely the time to wrap up old business concerning past insurance matters, old debts and disputes about shared possessions. This can be done quickly and smoothly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Without question, in the next month, you can expect to rehash old business with ex-partners and loved ones from your past. You might have to give something up.

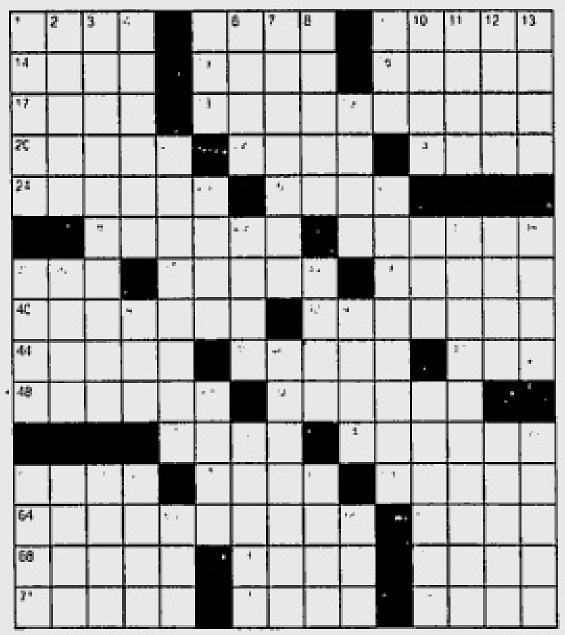
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Don't look for a new job until after May 20. However, this is an excellent time period to finish old work and wrap stuff up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): At this time in your life, many of you will hear from children or about children's situations that harken back to the past. Some will experience reunions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Family reunions and old business will likely be your focus now and in the next month. This is the perfect time to clear up old business related to domestic matters.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): If you need to get your car or truck fixed, do it now. During the next five weeks, transportation breakdowns and delays are extremely likely.

DAILY CROSSWORD

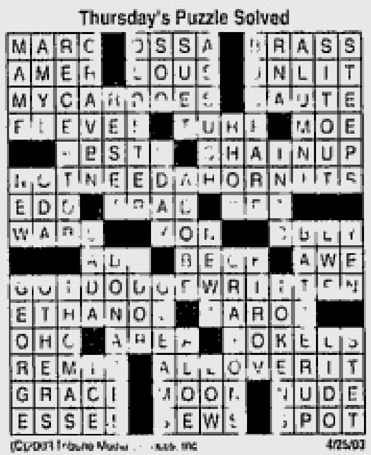


By Jack Hammond
Savannah, GA
4/25/03

ACROSS
1 Hidden fence
5 Highway access
9 Usher's path
14 Mimic
15 Chimney passage
16 Rusty hinge noise
17 Laze
18 Tony winner of 1949
20 French city
22 Josip Broz
23 Iditarod ride
24 Pelted with rocks
26 Chilly
28 Director of "The Bicycle Thief"
30 Saw to
35 Cry of discovery
37 Deep-blue pigment
39 Main artery
40 Tony winner of 1972
42 Tony winner of 1959
44 Page number
45 Calm
47 Put away, in a way
48 Mole's mission
50 Gestalt philosophy
52 Identical
54 Folksy Pete
57 BMW rival
61 Cake in a tub
63 Mrs. Gorbachev
64 Tony winner of 1990
67 Unruly child
68 Lean and lanky
69 And
70 Whitney and Lilly
71 Pond scum
72 Art Deco artist
73 Exxon, once

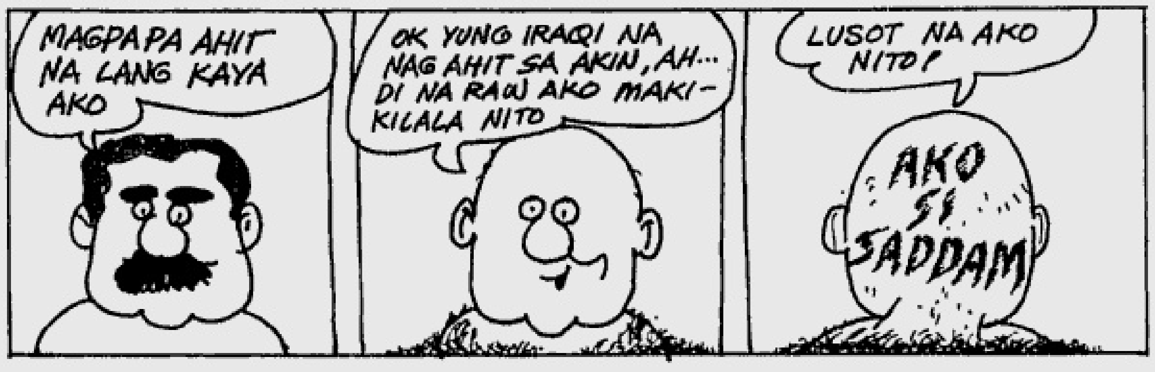
DOWN
1 Papa Bear
2 Leftward, asea
3 Tony winner of 1964
4 Actress Dahl
5 Assassination victim of 6/68
6 Came down
7 With 46D, puzzle theme
8 Basil sauce
9 Sleeve card
10 Pesters
11 Shut tightly
12 Behind schedule
13 Scraped (by)
19 Drop leathers
21 Meetings
25 Roosevelt coin
27 More lethal
29 Actress Peggy
31 Japanese drama
32 Tony winner of 1982
33 State: Fr.
34 Miami's county
35 Switch positions
36 Kind of skirt
38 Singing group
41 Hall of CIV
43 Building wings
46 See 7D
49 Deep wound
51 Navy builder
53 Elk relative
55 Actor Morales et al.
56 Dustin in "Midnight Cowboy"
57 Taj Mahal site
58 Caspian feeder
59 Euphemistic oath
60 Swenson of "Benson"
62 Jaunty
65 Tint
66 Director Spike

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

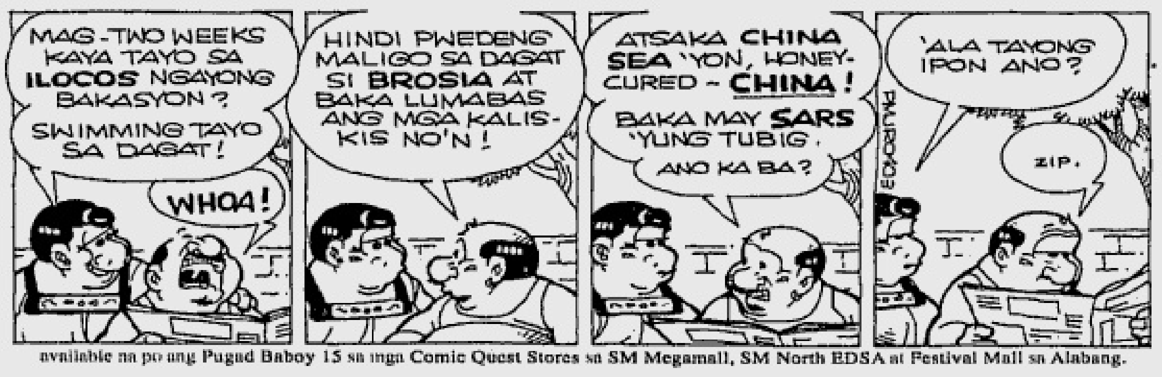


(C)2003 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved
4/25/03

A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA

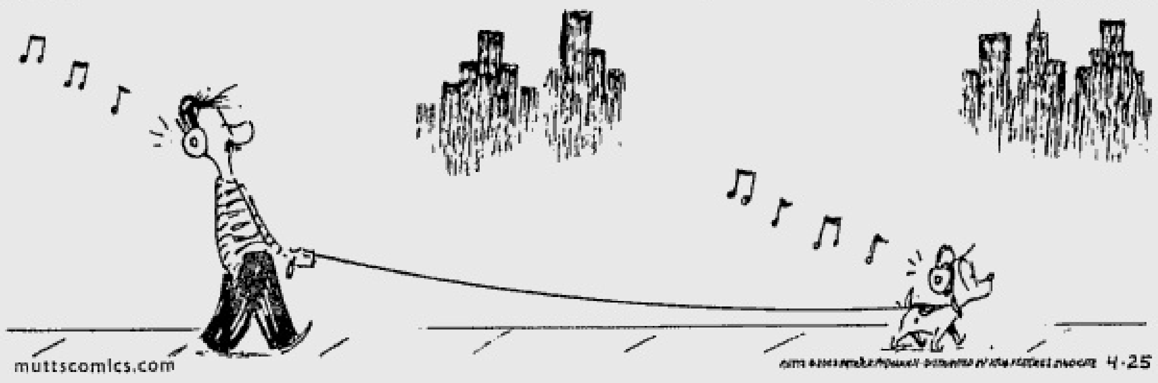

MAGPAPA AHIT NA LANG KAYA AKO
OK YUNG IRAQI NA NAG AHIT SA AKIN, AH... DI NA RAW AKO MAKIKILALA NITO
LUSOT NA AKO NITO!
AKO SI SADDAM

PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR

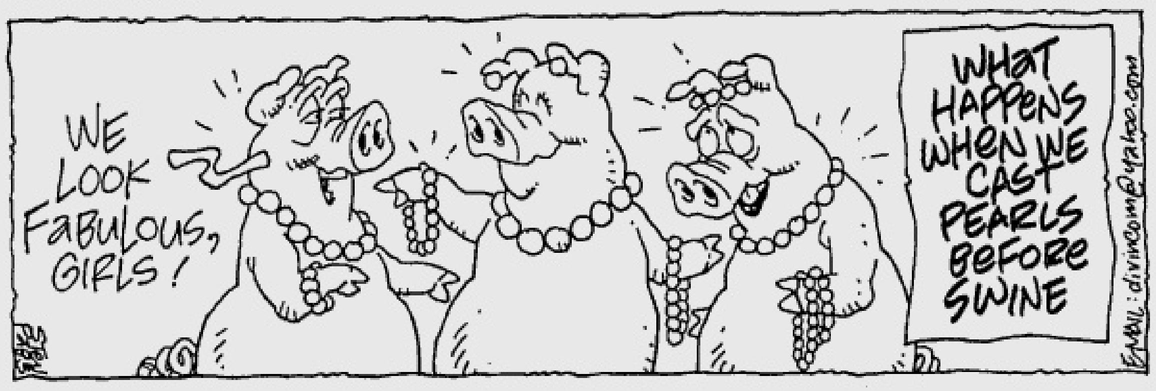

MAG-TWO WEEKS KAYA TAYO SA ILOCOS NGAYONG BAKASYON?
SWIMMING TAYO SA DAGAT!
WHOA!
HINDI PWEDENG MALIGO SA DAGAT SI BROSIA AT BAKA LUMABAS ANG MGA KALISKIS NO'N!
ATSAKA CHINA SEA 'YON, HONEY-CURED - CHINA!
BAKA MAY SARS 'YUNG TUBIG.
ANO KA BA?
'ALA TAYONG IPON ANO?
ZIP.
PMJUNIOR

available na po ang Pugad Baboy 15 sa mga Comic Quest Stores sa SM Megamall, SM North EDSA at Festival Mall sa Alabang.

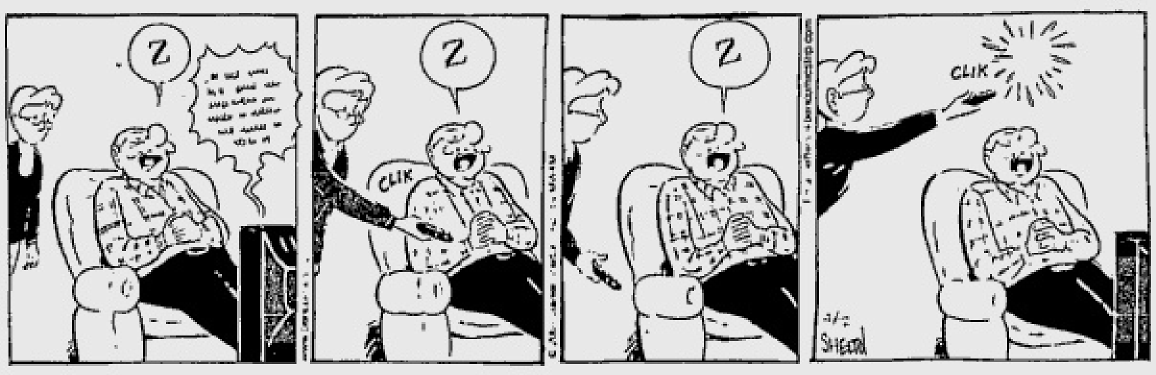
MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL


muttscomics.com
4-25

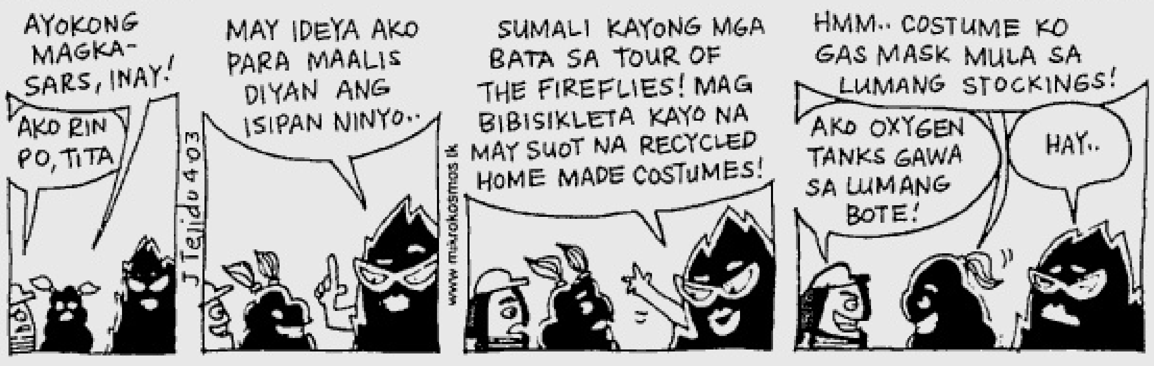
DIVINE COMEDY BY STEVEN PABALINAS


WE LOOK FABULOUS, GIRLS!
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE CAST PEARLS BEFORE SWINE
EMAIL: divincom@yahoo.com

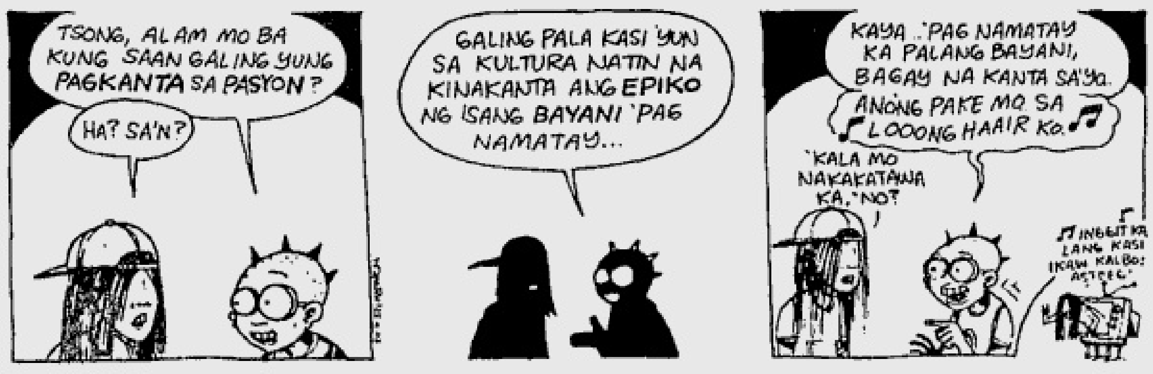
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON


Z
Z
CLIK
Z
CLIK
SHELTON

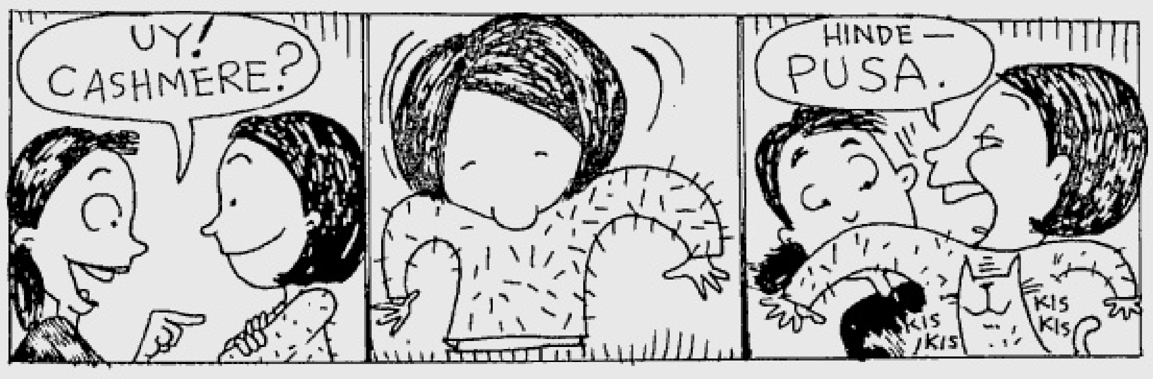
MIKROKOSMOS BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


AYOKONG MAGKASARS, INAY!
AKO RIN PO, TITA
J Tejido 403
MAY IDEYA AKO PARA MAALIS DIYAN ANG ISIPAN NINYO..
www.mikrokosmos.tk
SUMALI KAYONG MGA BATA SA TOUR OF THE FIREFLIES! MAG BIBISIKLETA KAYO NA MAY SUOT NA RECYCLED HOME MADE COSTUMES!
HMM.. COSTUME KO GAS MASK MULA SA LUMANG STOCKINGS!
AKO OXYGEN TANKS GAWA SA LUMANG BOTE!
HAY..

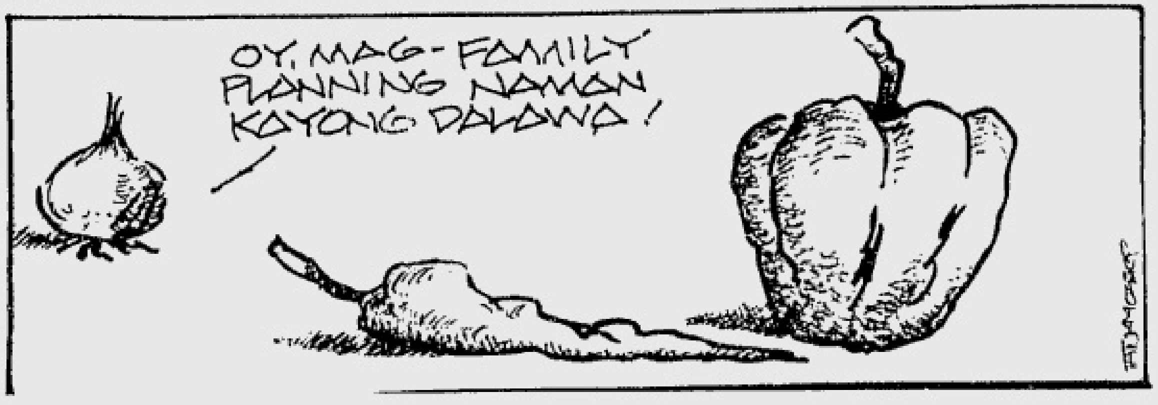
KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA


TSONG, ALAM MO BA KUNG SAAN GALING YUNG PAGKANTA SA PASYON?
HA? SA'N?
GALING PALA KASI 'YUN SA KULTURA NATIN NA KINAKANTA ANG EPIKO NG ISANG BAYANI 'PAG NAMATAY...
KAYA ..'PAG NAMATAY KA PALANG BAYANI, BAGAY NA KANTA SA'YO.
ANONG PAKE MO SA LOOONG HAAIR KO.
'KALA MO NAKAKATAWA KA, 'NO?
INGGIT KA LANG KASI IKAW KALBO! ASTEEG!

FUZZ THERAPY BY SUSIE AND CALVIN


UY! CASHMERE?
HINDE — PUSA.
KIS KIS
KIS KIS

TULDOK BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


OY, MAG-FAMILY PLANNING NAMAN KAYONG DALAWA!

Binibini girls cry 'unfair'

BALINGIT off to Colombia to prepare for the Miss Universe contest. JOAN BONDOC

From page H1

Balingit, Maria Rafaela Yunon (Bb. Pilipinas-World) and Jhezarie Javier (Bb. Pilipinas-International) were proclaimed winners on pageant night at the Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City.

A "pageant analyst," who requested anonymity, said handing out the list of possible questions to be asked during the show was a common practice even in regional beauty contests, but some Bb. Pilipinas contestants said they felt it was a "deception."

According to the analyst, copies of the questions are normally handed out to the candidates to give them an idea of what to expect during the actual question-and-answer portion. "So they won't stammer and look terribly nervous," he explained.

"But is this being done in international competitions?" another contestant told the INQUIRER. "I don't think it's the right thing to do."

The contestant said the distribution of the questions was unfair to those who really prepared for the pageant. "Why did the pageant organizers add a percentage on intelligence in the criteria in the first place?" she asked.

The criteria for judging were 50 percent for beauty of face, 30 percent for beauty of figure, and 20 percent for personality and intelligence.

A total of 27 contestants were chosen from among 300 applicants in a screening at the Araneta Center Food Dome in February. The number was whittled down to 10 on pageant night.

The 10 finalists were those who scored high during the talent, swimsuit and long gown portions and in the preliminary interview.

One candidate, however, said she did not mind the pre-pageant distribution of questions. "It's true we were given a list of questions," she said. "But in the end, it was really up to us to answer correctly.

"It is also true that some of the Binibini people hinted that a question about peace would be asked of the five finalists," she added, "but all of us were anticipating a question with social relevance anyway."

Balingit, 19, answered the final question by quoting Mother Theresa of Calcutta: "I would like to share to *(sic)* the world the words of St. *(sic)* Theresa of Calcutta: 'The fruit of prayer is silence, the fruit of silence is faith, the fruit of faith is hope, and the fruit of hope is love, unity and peace'."

Ex-funnyman...

REMEMBER HIM? Rudy Manlapaz makes a last stand. In the early '90s he received the Lou Salvador Sr. Memorial Award from the Famas (inset). BETOY JOHNSON

From page H8

"But now, I treasure simple things, like a phone call from a friend."

Rudy says he was drawn to God after he heard a preacher telling jokes about Him on radio. "As a comedian myself, I was drawn by the laughter of his listeners," he says. "I've never failed to listen to his radio program since then."

The preacher on the radio, according to Rudy's wife Consuelo, is Bro. Mike Velarde, leader of the El Shaddai flock.

'God sent you'

"God is such a merciful father," the former comedian says. "Whenever I tell Him about my problems, he never fails to respond.

"I was just talking to Him the other day when you called up," he tells the INQUIRER. "God has sent you to me because He knows you could help me."

He pushes his wheelchair closer to the couch where this writer is sitting, and he holds my hand. "Please help me," he says. "If you write my story, then maybe FPJ (Fernando Poe Jr.) or Sharon (Cuneta) would remember me. I've worked with them before all this happened to me."

For Rudy's wife and children, money to pay for his daily sessions with the therapist "would lighten the burden on our shoulders."

The former funnyman has simple wishes, but maybe they're not so simple to a sick man who cannot always afford to buy his medicines. "Just a new wheelchair," he says. "And an airpot (thermos bottle) by my bedside so I don't have to wake up any of my children when I get hungry at night."

Bench-warmer
INQUIRER
Piatco wants Climaco

For the past 9 years, the Philippine Daily Inquirer has topped the Asia Research Organization Readership Survey as the No.1 broadsheet in the country. This year, we've done it again, thanks to the faith of our readers, advertisers, dealers, and partners who remain confident in our commitment to public service. We're glad that whatever your reading style, you have made us a part of your life.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
News that makes a difference

ALL DIGITAL SOUND
AYALA CINEMAS
PRESENTS

G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE	1 WHAT A GIRL WANTS	ArtFilm 1 TITUS (Advance Screenings) 12:20, 3:20, 6:20, 9:20	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 1 JOHNNY ENGLISH 1:00, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25, 11:30	THX 1 ANGER MANAGEMENT
2 WHAT A GIRL WANTS	2 PHONE BOOTH	2 JOHNNY ENGLISH 12:00, 2:10, 4:15, 6:20, 8:25	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 2 ANGER MANAGEMENT 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30	2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 JOHNNY ENGLISH	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 3 JOHNNY ENGLISH 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	Onstage ACOUSTIC NIGHT OUT SERIES May 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 & 31	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 THE RECRUIT 12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30	3 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT	4 A MAN APART		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 WHAT A GIRL WANTS 12:50, 2:55, 5:00, 7:05, 9:10, 11:15	4 THE JUNGLE BOOK 2
	5 THE JUNGLE BOOK 2		GUARANTEED SEATS 5 PHONE BOOTH 12:25, 2:15, 4:05, 5:55, 7:45, 9:35, 11:25	5 PHONE BOOTH
	6 ANGER MANAGEMENT			
	7 EQUILIBRIUM			

For sreening times, call 729-7777. Movies are subject to change without prior notice. Reserve your seats by texting **SURESEATS GB3** or **SURESEATS G4** and send to **2333**. Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DOLBY) JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 (SDDS) ANGER MANAGEMENT
3 (DTS) PHONE BOOTH
4 GOLD (DTS ES) JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 GOLD (DOLBY EX) ANGER MANAGEMENT
6 GOLD (SDDS) EQUILIBRIUM
7 GOLD (DOLBY EX) WHAT A GIRL WANTS
8 JUNGLE BOOK-2
9 SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE
10 THE CORE

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 (DTS) RESERVE
4 RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 (DTS) RESERVE
Golden Pearl THX RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA ①②&③
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 . 833.3274

1 PUNLA
2 BOLD STAR
3 EQUILIBRIUM

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph (Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

1 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
2 A MAN APART
3 SEC DRIVE
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 PUNLA

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285

1 A MAN APART
2 PHONE BOOTH
3 PUNLA
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 ANGER MANAGEMENT
6 EQUILIBRIUM

M star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas)
tel 873.5004

1 KANGAROO JACK
2 A MAN APART

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 8934225, 8922503

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 THE CORE
2 THE RECRUIT

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL INC
tel 930.9515

1 PUNLA
2 BOLD STAR
3

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1 GOLDEN BULLET
2 MALDITA
3
4

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (SDDS) A MAN APART
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT
5 PHONE BOOTH
6 JUNGEL BOOK-2
7 (DTS) WHAT A GIRL WANTS
8 (SDDS) EQUILIBRIUM
9 (DOLBY) JOHNNY ENGLISH

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2 RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 365.7928

1 A MAN APART
2 JUNGLE BOOK-2
3 PUNLA
4 (SDDS) JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 ANGER MANAGEMENT
6 (DOLBY) WHAT A GIRL WANTS
7 (DTS) EQUILIBRIUM
8 PHONE BOOTH
9 SEX DRIVE

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082

1 ANGER MANAGEMENT
2 (SDDS) WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3 (DTS) PHONE BOOTH
4 (DOLBY) JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 A MAN APART

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1 A MAN APART
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 (DTS) ANGER MANAGEMENT
4 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
5 (SDDS) PHONE BOOTH

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1 JOHNNY ENGLISH

Sampaquita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1 SEX DRIVE

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson PUNLA
Lords BOLD STAR
Jennet RESERVE

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 PUNLA
3 PHONE BOOTH
4 WHAT A GIRL WANTS

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY) A MAN APART
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 PUNLA
4 PHONE BOOTH
5 BOLD STAR

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

1
2

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 - 879.2029

1 SHE WALKS BY NIGHT
2 PUNLA

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Araneta

MALL CINEPLEX 7
tel 911.3101 loc. 821.8242.8400

1 EQUILIBRIUM
2 A MAN APART
3 (DOLBY DIGITAL) ANGER MANAGEMENT
4 (SDDS) JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 (DTS) PHONE BOOTH
6 JUNGLE BOOK 2
7 WHAT A GIRL WANTS

FarmersPlaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821.8242.8400

1 A MAN APART
2 BOLD STAP

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
TEL. (049) 837-0928

1 RING-2
2 VIRGIN PEOLPLE
3 (DTS) JOHNNY ENGLISH

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 PHONE BOOTH
2 (DTS) WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3 (DOLBY) JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
2 (DOLBY) JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 (DTS) PHONE BOOTH
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 THE RECRUIT
2 SEX DRIVE
3 (DOLBY) THE CORE
4

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
2 THE RECRUIT
3 (DOLBY) RING-2
4 JUST MARRIED

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

1 (DOLBY) JUST MARRIED
2 (DTS) THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
3 THE RECRUIT

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS) JAILBIRD
2
3 (DTS) BATANG MAGDALENA
4 PUNLA

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) ANGER MANAGEMENT
2 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3 (DTS) JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 PHONE BOOTH
5 WILLARD

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3 VIRGIN PEOLE

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558

1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3 VIRGIN PEOLF

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1 SOLARIS
2 JUST MARRIED
3 THE CORE
4 THE RECRUIT

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS) RESERVE
2 RESFRVE

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1 DREAMCATCHER
2 VIRGIN PEOPLE
3 RESERVE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 THE CORE
2 THE RECRUIT
3 KANGAROO JACK
4 THE EYE

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-6001 TO 03

1 (DOLBY EX) ANGER MANAGEMENT
2 RING-2
3 (DTS ES) JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 KANGAROO JACK

Cine Nepo Mall
(Angeles City) te (045) 887-0121

1 KANGAROO JACK
2 ANGER MANAGEMENT
3 (DOLBY) NATIONAL SECURITY
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

FESTIVAL Supermall
Level 4
Festival Supermall
Filinvest - Alabang
Tel. 85035-71 to 72

SANDLER NICHOLSON

ANGER MANAGEMENT

NOW SHOWING

SM CINEMA
SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 833-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173888

1 PHONE BOOTH
2 JUNGLE BOOK 2
3 A MAN APART
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 EQUILIBRIUM
6 BOLDSTAR
7 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
8 ANGER MANAGEMENT

SM CENTERPOINT
7148522 -7161418

1 A MAN APART
2 BOLDSTAR
3 EQUILIBRIUM
4 PUNLA
5 JOHNNY ENGLISH
6 JUNGLE BOOK 2
7 ANGER MANAGEMENT
8 THE CORE
9 PHONE BOOTH
10 WHAT A GIRL WANTS

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1 JUNGLE BOOK 2
2 EQUILIBRIUM
3 KANGAROO JACK
4 PHONE BOOTH
5 JOHNNY ENGLISH
6 BOLDSTAR
7 A MAN APART
8 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
9 ANGER MANAGEMENT
10 THE CORE
11 SEX DRIVE
12 PUNLA

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1 A MAN APART
2 ANGER MANAGEMENT
3 JUNGLE BOOK 2
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
6 PHONE BOOTH
7 PUNLA
8 SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE
9 EQUILIBRIUM
10 THE CORE
11 KANGAROO JACK
12 BOLDSTAR

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1 THE CORE
2 PHONE BOOTH
3 EQUILIBRIUM
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT
5 JOHNNY ENGLISH
6 JUNGLE BOOK 2
7 PUNLA
8 SOLARIS
9 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
10 A MAN APART
11 SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE
12 BOLDSTAR

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 EQUILIBRIUM
4 PHONE BOOTH
5 JUNGLE BOOK 2
6 ANGER MANAGEMENT
7 PUNLA
8 BOLDSTAR

SM SOUTHMALL
8068888

1 SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE
2 JUNGLE BOOK 2
3 A MAN APART
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT
5 PUNLA
6 PHONE BOOTH
7 JOHNNY ENGLISH
8 EQUILIBRIUM
9 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
10 BOLDSTAR

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1 THE RECRUIT
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 KANGAROO JACK
4 BOLDSTAR
5 FINAL DESTINATION 2
6 SEX & ZEN 2
7 NATIONAL SECURITY
8 EQUILIBRIUM

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1 JUST MARRIED
2 CLOSED
3 WILD THORNBERRYS MOVIE
4 NATIONAL SECURITY
5 SOLARIS
6 JOHNNY ENGLISH
7 CLOSED
8 BOLDSTAR

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 ANGER MANAGEMENT
3 EQUILIBRIUM
4 BOLDSTAR
5 NATIONAL SECURITY
6 KANGAROO JACK

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1 PHONE BOOTH
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
4 A MAN APART

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 PUNLA
3 A MAN APART
4 BOLD STAR

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1 EQUILIBRIUM
2 JUST MARRIED
3 FINAL DESTINATION 2
4 SOLARIS
5 NATIONAL SECURITY
6 JOHNNY ENGLISH

SM BICUTAN
776-3055

1 PHONE BOOTH
2 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3 JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 A MAN APART

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
859-2884

1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 FINAL DESTINATION
3 KANGAROO JACK
4 THE RECRUIT

THE PODIUM CINEMA
633-0076

1 PHONEBOOTH
11:30 FS/12:00 MF/1:50/3:40/5:30/7:20/
9:10/10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:20 END

2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
11:00 MF/1:00/3:00/5:00/7:00/9:00/
10:25 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:25 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee P100.00 - Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
Regular Rate P120.00 - After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating)

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls
call-a-movie 536-7812
NOW SHOWING

Galleria
632-9115-16
633-7641 loc. 279

THX JOHNY ENGLISH 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 LMF, 9:30 END
2 JOHNY ENGLISH
3 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
4 EQUILIBRIUM
5 ANGER MANAGEMENT
6 PHONE BOOTH
7 JUNGLE BOOK
8 SHADOW OF VAMPIRE
9 A MAN APART
10 BOLD STAR

MATINEE PRICE: P90 THX cinema / P70 I level cinemas
Mon.- Fri. / 10am - 4pm (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

Ermita
536-7809-12

1 JOHNY ENGLISH
2 EQUILIBRIUM
3 JUNGLE BOOK 2
4 PHONE BOOTH
5 ANGER MANAGEMENT
6 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
7 A MAN APART

Metro East - Marcos hway
682-8193 / 8280

1 JUNGLE BOOK
2 A MAN APART
3 JOHNY ENGLISH
4 EQUILIBRIUM
5 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
6 ANGER MANAGEMENT
7 PHONE BOOTH
8 BOLD STAR

Novaliches
935-3229-30

1 EQUILIBRIUM
2 PHONE BOOTH
3 A MAN APART
4 JOHNY ENGLISH
5 ANGER MANAGEMENT
6 JUNGLE BOOK
7 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
8 BOLD STAR

Malabon Citisquare
288-0985 / 288-2575

1 PHONE BOOTH
2 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3 JOHNY ENGLISH
4 A MAN APART

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp
(045)875-1927
(045)961-5270

1 NATIONAL SECURITY
2 BOLD STAR
3 ANGER MANAGEMENT
4 JOHNY ENGLISH
5 KANGAROO JACK
6 EQUILIBRIUM

Imus
471-8188 / 875-3838

1 A MAN APART
2 PHONE BOOTH
3 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT
5 EQUILIBRIUM
6 JOHNY ENGLISH

Sta. Rosa Laguna
(049)837-0907

1 PHONE BOOTH
2 JOHNY ENGLISH
3 ANGER MANAGEMENT
4 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
5 BOLD STAR

Bacolod
441-0453 / 0459

1 JOHNY ENGLISH
2 JUST MARRIED
3 NATIONAL SECURITY
4 WILLARD
5 EQUILIBRIUM
6 SEX DRIVE

Iloilo
336-8077-78

1 JOHNY ENGLISH
2 JUST MARRIED
3 NATIONAL SECURITY
4 SOLARIS
5 BOLD STAR
6 FINAL DESTINATION

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

'Philipogy' in Davao

SHOW TIME

LIFE goes on for most Davaoeños, despite the recent terror threats.

A show, which will feature sexy star Rosanna Roces and comedians Philip Lazaro and Joy Viado on April 25 and 26, will help Davaoeños forget all their worries.

"The Philipogy Show," a timely comedy act to de-stress tense Davaoeños, will be held at the 2000-seater entertainment club The Venue.

San Beda ...

From page H2

Salzburg, Austria and in the International Choir Festival in Levanto, Italy.

Robert Delgado, a noted choral arranger, leads the group as its present choirmaster.

The 23-member contingent in the European tour includes Emilio de Lara, Oliver Obtinario, Jhon Roberts Buemio, Lester Delgado, Ally Guido, Rhoel Reodica, Vincent Liban, Jose Edison Torres, Bienvenido Dimailig Jr., Irish Saludares, Arlene Cabrera, Juancho Tanjutco, Timothy Seril, Randel Dones, Wang Si Jiu, Kim Sum Bong, Pang Deriquito, Francis Salazar, Michael Realista, John Michael Tolentino, Rodel Valdez and Eric Labonete.

TWM brings back Gary V

THE WORLD of Music (TWM), the widely popular long-running series of live classical music performances, returns onstage with a special treat for everyone.

After the successful concert last March 28, TWM brings back to The Podium "Beyond Words: The Music of Gary V," 6:30 p.m. on April 26, Saturday.

The show is presented by Tissot Swiss Watches Since 1853, The Podium and Universal Records, and in part by Panasonic GD88 Tri-band (The Ultra Compact Digital Camera Phone), Anonymous and Montre. Admission is free.

The presentation of Gary V's new album sets a different tone for TWM. This time, around, TWM headlines a local music icon, Gary Valenciano.

Aside from its usual repertoire of classical pieces, the two-part concert will also feature songs popularized by Gary—an eclectic mix of musical genres, ranging from classical pieces to movie themes to Original Pilipino Music (OPM).

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND·EX
NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1	JOHNNY ENGLISH 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40 P13	
CINEMA 2	WHAT A GIRL WANTS 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30 GP	

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM
APR 29,2003 "THIS is ME!..." (Ana Llanes) 9:00PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

The Ayala Mall Events
AYALA CENTER
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
AYALA CENTER CEBU

Trumpets
LITTLE MERMAID

Featuring
Antoinette Taus as Little Mermaid
& Karylle as Princess Sapphire
Directed by Audie Gemora

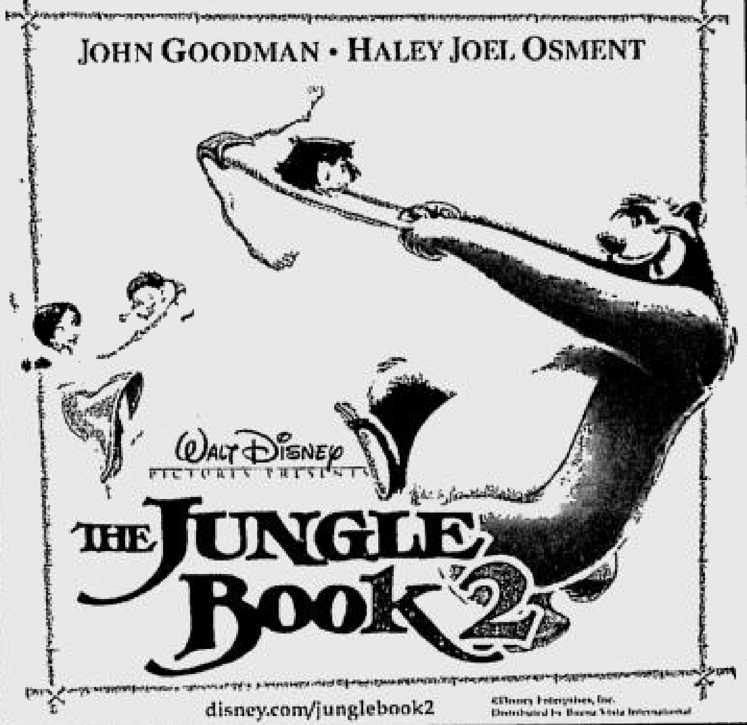
Ayala Center Makati
May 2 11am, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm
May 3 2pm, 4pm, 6pm
May 4 4pm, 6:30pm

Alabang Town Center
May 9 11am, 4pm, 6pm
May 10 11am, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm
May 11 4pm, 6:30pm

Ayala Center Cebu
May 23 4pm, 6:30pm
May 24 11am, 3pm, 5:30pm, 7pm
May 25 11:30am, 3pm, 6pm

Ayala Malls. Because you deserve more.
www.ayalamalls.com.ph www.ayalaland.com.ph

SWING TO AN ALL NEW JUNGLE RHYTHM!
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage
ALL AGES ADMITTED
All-New & Baloo Too!
JOHN GOODMAN • HALEY JOEL OSMENT



disney.com/junglebook2
©Disney Enterprises, Inc. Distributed by Buena Vista International
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

ARANETA CENTER
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

Ali 1	EQUILIBRIUM
Ali 2	A MAN APART
Ali 3	ANGER MANAGEMENT
Ali 4	JOHNNY ENGLISH
Ali 5	PHONE BOOTH
Ali 6	JUNGLE BOOK 2
Ali 7	WHAT A GIRL WANTS

FARMERS PLAZA CINEMAS

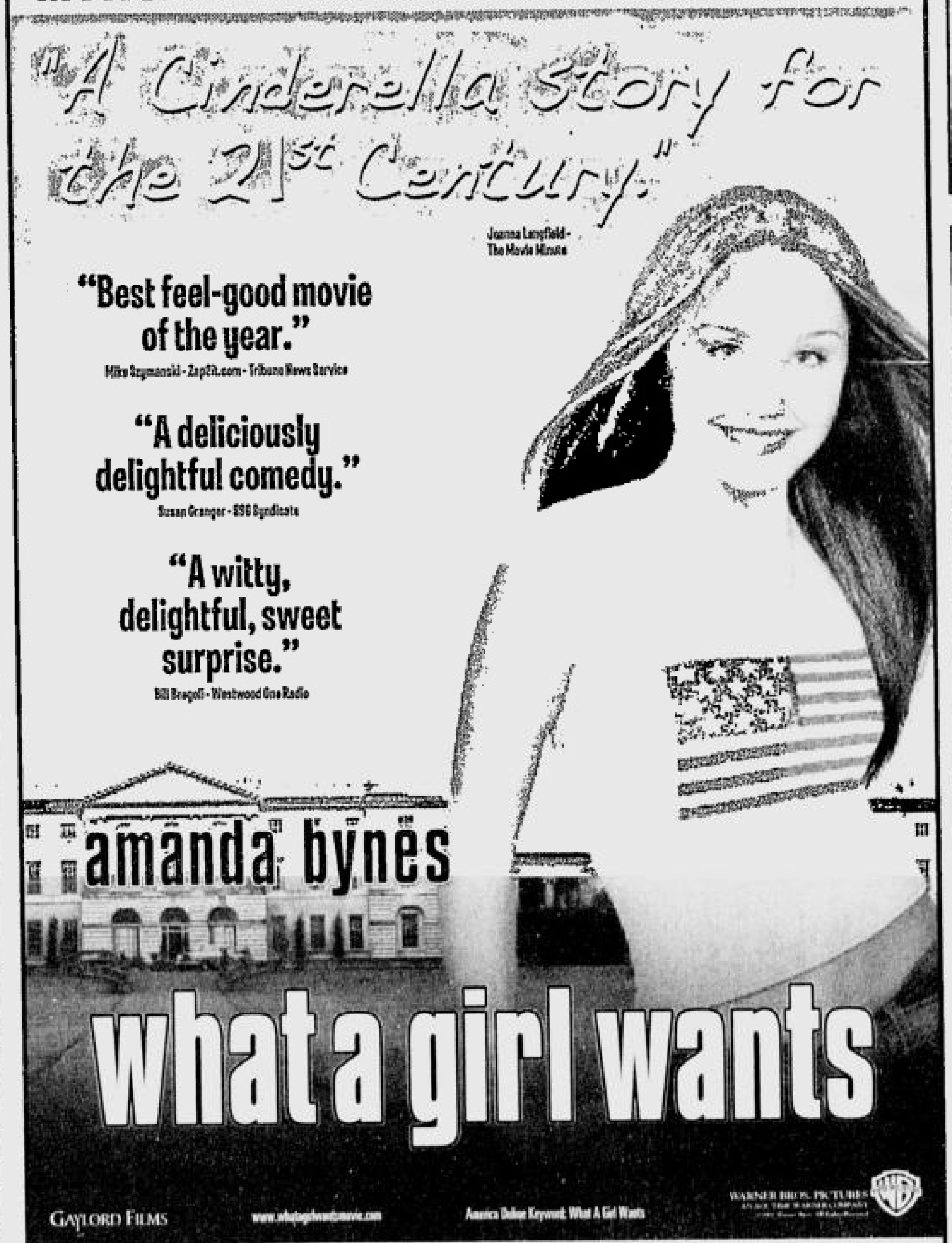
Farmers 1	A MAN APART
Farmers 2	BOLD STAR

ARANETA COLISEUM

APR 27	PBA GAMES
APR 28 & 30	NCA 7 COCK DERBY
MAY 9 & 10	MARTIN & REGINE CONCERT

ELEPHANT WORLD
FUN RIDES
TAGADISCO • VIKING SHIP
STARTS 4PM

MTRCB RATING: G-ALL AGES ADMITTED


"A Cinderella story for the 21st Century."
Joanna Langfield - The Movie Minute
"Best feel-good movie of the year."
Mike Szymanski - Zap2it.com - Tribune News Service
"A deliciously delightful comedy."
Susan Granger - SSG Syndicate
"A witty, delightful, sweet surprise."
Bill Bregoli - Westwood One Radio
amanda bynes
what a girl wants
GAYLORD FILMS
America Online Keyword: What A Girl Wants
WARNER BROS. PICTURES

NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

FROM THE MAKERS OF BEAN
HE KNOWS NO FEAR
HE KNOWS NO DANGER
HE KNOWS NOTHING
ROWAN ATKINSON
JOHNNY ENGLISH
NOW SHOWING

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	BALAT SIBUYAS / TRI-SEVENTEEN
ODEON	BOLDSTAR
ODEON-2	HAYOP SA SEX APPEAL/ BATAS ANG UUSIG
ROBEN	PUNLA
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	HARRY POTTER [illegible]

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	PUNLA
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	PUNLA
REMAR	BOLDSTAR
REMAR-2	PUNLA

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	PUNLA
B	BOLD STAR
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
CINEMA-2	THE JUNGLE BOOK 2

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	KASIPING
CINEMA-2	BOLDSTAR
CINEMA-3	PUNLA
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PHONE BOOTH
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	KANGAROO JACK
CINEMA-6	SEX DRIVE
CINEMA-7	THE CORE
CINEMA-8	KAULAYAW
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ANGER MANAGEMENT
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	JOHNNY ENGLISH
CINEMA-12	A MAN APART
CINEMA-14	EQUILIBRIUM
CINEMA-15	JUNGLE BOOK 2

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

CINEMA 1	DIE ANOTHER DAY
CINEMA 2	BAHID
CINEMA 3	HARRY POTTER
CINEMA 4	[illegible]

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	[illegible]

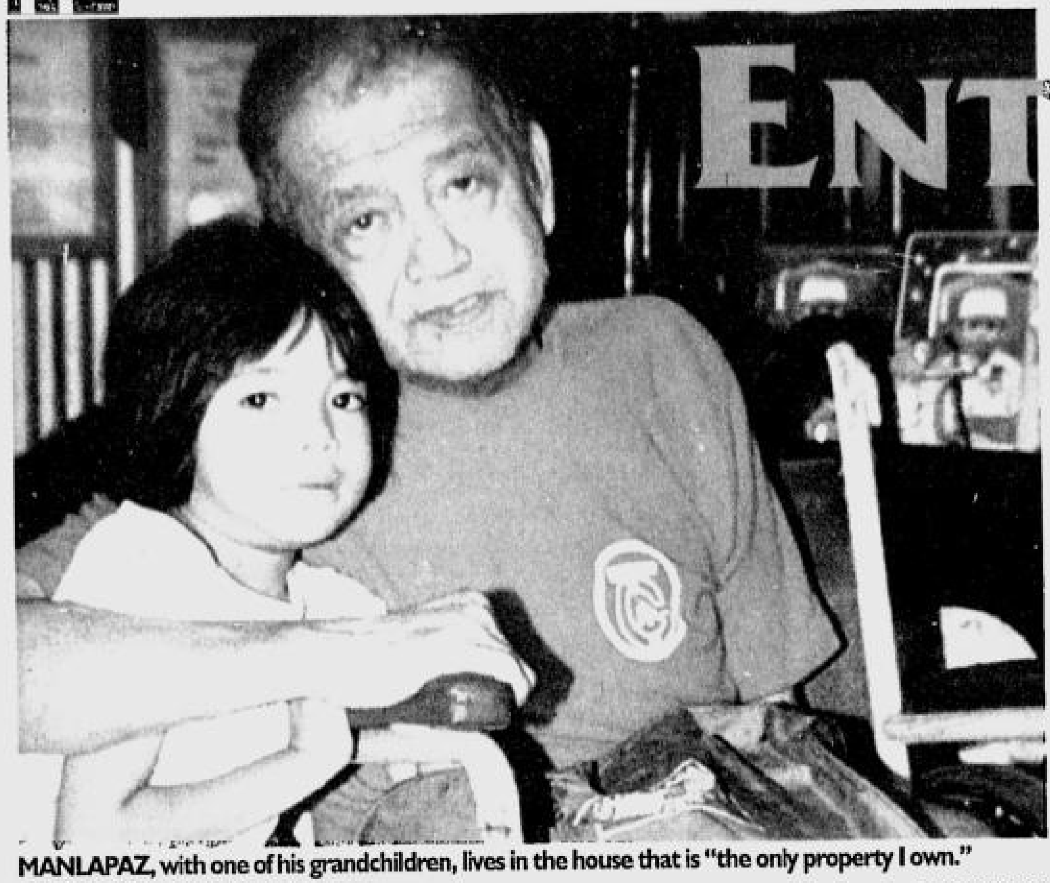
WOLVERINE
DEATHSTRYKE
X-MEN 2
MARVEL

Logan is a loner by nature and a hunter by trade. The feral warrior, code-named Wolverine, possesses genetically endowed animal-keen senses of smell, sight and hearing, as well as a mutant healing factor that can mend almost any wound. His skeleton and razor-sharp, extendible claws are both made of an unbreakable metal alloy called adamantium.

Yuriko Oyama is Stryker's director of special projects. A mysterious character, Oyama is there to do Stryker's dirty work. Her true self is revealed as Lady Deathstrike. A product of Weapon X experimentation, she is equipped with razor-sharp claws.

THE EVOLUTION BEGINS
CATCH THEM IN THEATRES SOON

ENTERTAINMENT



MANLAPAZ, with one of his grandchildren, lives in the house that is "the only property I own."

BETOY JOHNSON

YESTERDAY

Ex-funnyman makes serious plea: Help me

By Marinel R. Cruz

NO ONE is laughing now.

But in his heyday as a comic, Rudy Manlapaz was one of the funniest men on Philippine stage and television from the '60s through the '80s. He was not the biggest comedian of those years, but he certainly was a scream. He could match antics with the best of them and make people laugh with his plain humor. He was very much like the rest of the other comedians, but he was also different in that he did not rely on any physical deformity or shortcoming to be funny. He instead used his wit, delivered in his slow, thoughtful growl and combined with his perennial deadpan and every good comedian's tool—perfect timing.

Rudy Manlapaz was a real funnyman.

Carefree life

He made them roll in the aisles with laughter in quickly and crudely drawn sketches at the Manila Grand Opera House in Sta. Cruz, Manila. He and other comics performed on countless wooden stages in countless towns and villages around the country, making *fiestas* merry and memorable for the people.

He performed with comedy icons like, among others, the late Bentot, Dolphy and the late dramatic actor Leroy Salvador, who was also a good comedian. He was in sitcoms like "Balitang Barbero" on Channel 11, "Ginang Milyonaryo" on Channel 2, and later in the early '80s, on "Cafeteria Aroma," with Miniong Villegas and Apeng Daldal, now both dead.

"I lived a carefree life back then," recalls Rudy, now 70. "Life had been so good that my only problem was how to spend all my money."

And then a far from funny incident happened in 1990.

Rudy had hosted a party for a niece at the Aloha Hotel, which used to be on Roxas Boulevard in Manila. He does not remember the exact date, but he still remembers clearly the worried look on the face of his wife Consuelo.

"She asked me why I was sticking out my tongue and she scolded me for drooling," he recalls. "I didn't know I was drooling. I lost consciousness and woke up in a hospital."

'Peso-pist'

It was a stroke due to high blood pressure and it paralyzed half his body and bound him to a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

He now admits that in his funnyman years, he earned more than enough for his family's needs, but he was not able to save even a little for the rainy days. After his stroke, he realized he did not have enough to buy his medicines or to afford a physical therapist.

"I used to hire a therapist for P120 per session," he says, and shows a trace of his former funny self. "When he started charging me P450, I called him a peso-pist. I call him up only whenever I have money."

Because Rudy had to stop working, money became scarce. Most of the time, the money reserved for his medications had to be used to buy food for the family.

Rudy shares a house in Parañaque City with his wife Consuelo and their children Rosalinda, Rosita, Raquel and Romeo.

"This house is the only property I own," Rudy says of the bungalow with a white steel fence along Peso Lane at Villanueva Village.

Erap's visit

His son Romeo is a taxi driver. His daughter Rosalinda raises her two children on her own.

"My son's driver's license has just been confiscated," he tells the INQUIRER during the interview. "He has not been able to drive his taxi for almost two weeks now."

Still, Rudy says he is happy that he still has friends in show business who help him. He says German Moreno and Dolphy sometimes give him cash for his medicines. Even Quezon City Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista, who's a no mean comedian himself, has also given him money, he says.

When former actor Joseph Estrada was still president, he also used to visit Rudy. Once, Estrada gave him money to renovate his house.

"It was raining when he visited us and there were pots and pails all over the house to catch the rain water leaking through the roof," Rudy says.

Simple things

But he says he knows his friends have expenses of their own and he cannot always expect doleouts from them. The Movie Workers' Welfare Foundation, or Mowelfund, also gives him financial assistance once a year, just as it helps a hundred other Mowelfund members.

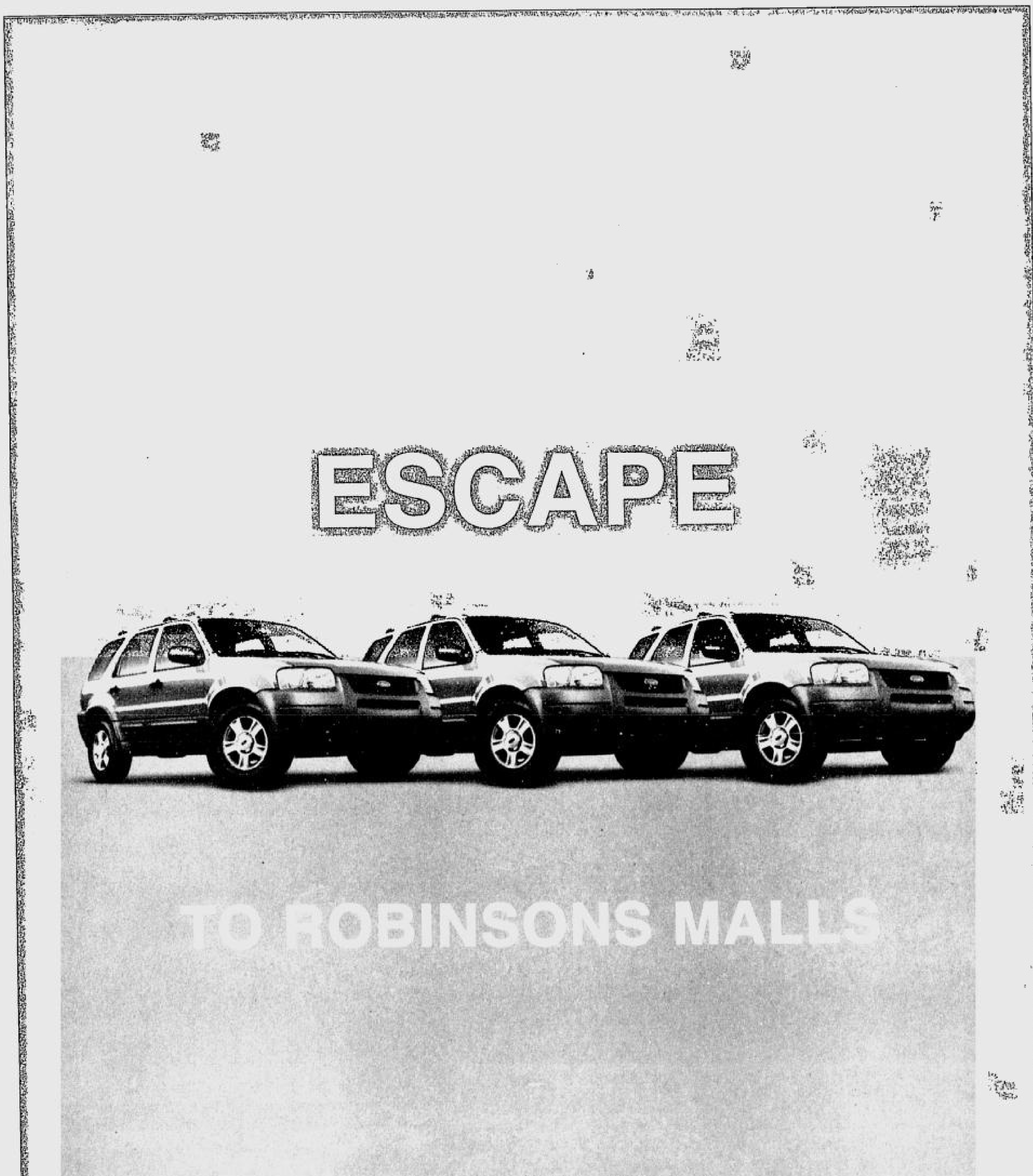
"That is why I draw strength from God now," Rudy says. "I used to think He didn't exist.

"I used to be very materialistic," he adds.

EX-FUNNYMAN/ H5

DID YOU KNOW...

The Queen of Intrigues, **Inday Badiday**, spent a quiet Holy Week vacation with **Gene "Bo" Palomo** at the Royal Tagaytay Estates. Inday and Bo were with Inday's eldest child, INQUIRER's "Dollywood" columnist **Dolly Anne Carvajal**. It seems that as far as the host of "Heart to Heart" (GMA 7, Sundays, 10:30 a.m.) is concerned, Bo is really for keeps.


ESCAPE
TO ROBINSONS MALLS
PURCHASES GIVES YOU THE CHANCE TO WIN
Robinsons Mall outlet and get a raffle coupon for your

YOU CAN ALSO BRING HOME THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF INSTANT PRIZES!
You can bring home gift certificates, movie passes and cash coupons with every entry.
Something this good can only come from Robinsons Malls, so join the Shoptime, Drivetime promo now!

Promo period is from April 8 to June 4, 2003. Grand draw is on June 14, 2003.

SHOPTIME DRIVETIME PROMO

Robinsons Department Store · Robinsons Supermarket · big Supercenter · ROBINSONS Malls · Coca-Cola Mismo · Ford · CINEMAS

See flyers for details

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1172, Series of 2003

PHILAM PLANS

14th Company Anniversary 2003

Number One in its industry

2 Production Targets
Total Premiums
in First Year Payments
PHILAM

PRESIDENT and CEO Jesus G. Hofileña, FLMI, LLIF, reports the factors that made Philam Plans Number One.

AS this article sees print, the world is still reeling from the effects of war. Governments are recovering their bruised economies. Corporations have taken to reduction measures to subsist on minimal expense. Nearly everybody is busy surviving to even aim for opulence.

Not this pre-need company. In fact, as Philam Plans, Inc. marks its 14th anniversary this April 2003, it also celebrates its claim to fame in 2002—**THE LEADERSHIP POSITION IN THE PRE-NEED INDUSTRY!**

Philam Plans emerged as the number one pre-need company based on total value of new sales for the year 2002. The December 2002 Sales Analysis Pre-Need Industry Report prepared by Actuarial Advisers Inc., which is based on SEC data, confirms that Philam Plans registered the highest volume of P8.1 billion in Pre-Need Price (PNP) in 2002, capturing 21.55% of the entire market.

Positive growth amidst industry's negative performance. In 2002, it defied even the industry's negative sales performance by posting a positive growth of 29% in gross collections. PPI continued to dominate pension plan sales with P5.5 billion PNP in 2002, cornering 24.72% of the market. Philam Plans' performance in the education plan category catapulted its industry ranking from no. 4 in the previous year to no. 2, with a market share of 17.89%. Its life plan sales ranked PPI as 3rd best performer in this product category with 10.88% of the market.

Philam Plans' 2002 financial performance affirmed it to be one of the most financially sound pre-need companies in the industry today. Gross collections in 2002 totaled P3.54 billion, representing a 29% increase over last year's figure of P2.74 billion. Philam Plans' trust fund has a value of P6.367 billion, 44% more than the previous year. On the income side, notwithstanding additional SEC mandates in 2002 for additional contributions to reserves, the company still reflected a positive bottom line of P126 million.

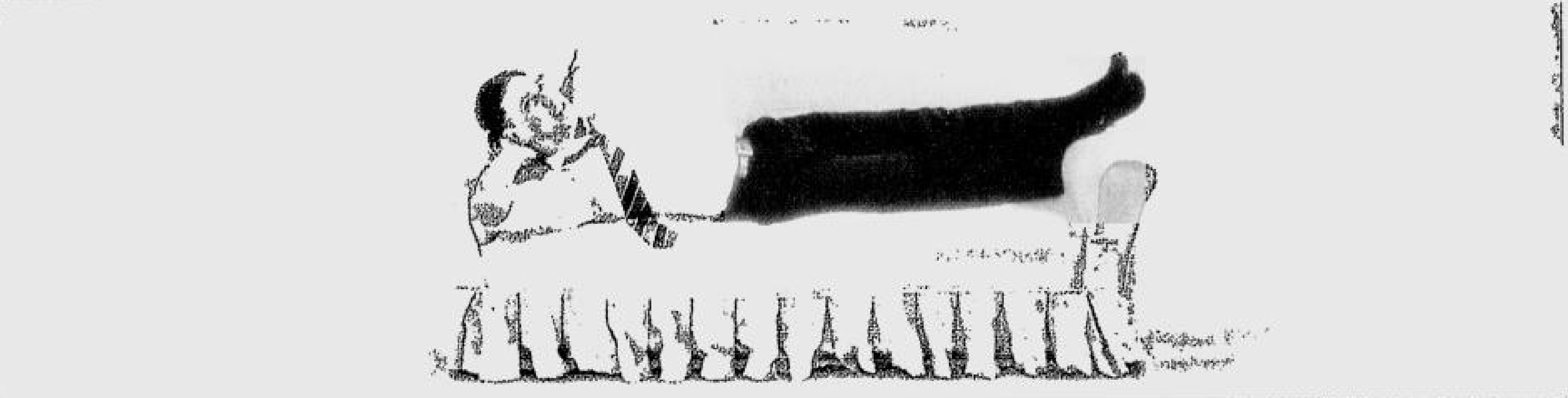
> In 2002, it defied even the industry's negative sales performance by posting a positive growth of 29% in gross collections

Achievements in operations. Complementing its sales performance are the company's efforts towards customer service excellence. In 2002 it launched a call center to provide PPI planholders access to information as well as better servicing on their plans. By dialing 528-5200, a planholder can log queries through the Call Center representatives from Monday to Saturday.

Bringing its quality standards a notch higher, the company worked toward earning its certification to the new version of ISO, the ISO 9001:2000. With the company's transition to ISO 9001:2000, the pre-need company's growing number of customers were further assured of Philam Plans' commitment to excellence.

NUMBER/12

An Education Plan for



Singles,

Doubles,

and even Triples.

PHILAM PLANS GOLD
EDUCATION PLAN

You don't need to have children to purchase an educational plan. No matter what age you are in right now, Philam Plans' Gold Education Plan is sure to fit your needs. If you're single or newly married, secure your future child's education early. If you're an uncle or an aunt, assign the plan to a favorite niece or nephew. And if you're a grandparent, give the plan as a gift to your grandchild.

Call 528-5200 and get a Philam Plans' Gold Education Plan NOW!

one with the filipino family

ISO 9002 SGS

PHILAM PLANS

Philam Group of Companies
The Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company, Philam Savings Bank, Inc., Philam Plans, Inc., Philam Care Health Systems, Inc., Philam Properties Corporation, Philam Asset Management, Inc., Philam Systems Inc., Philam Insurance Company, Inc., AIG Credit Card Company Philippines, Inc.

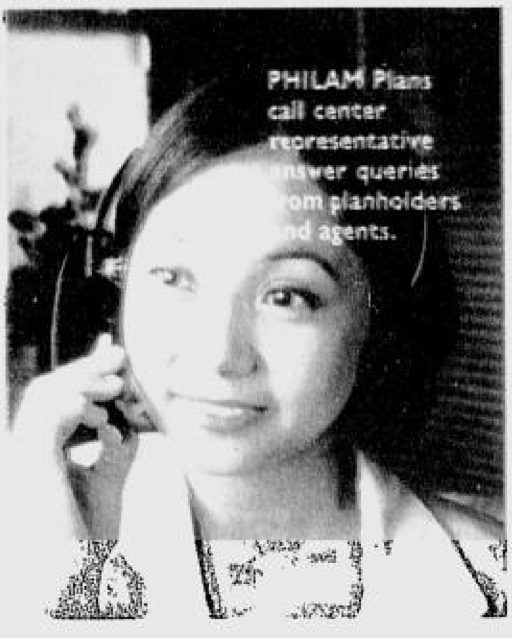
Ask about Philam Plans Gold Education Plan.
☐ Tell me more about Philam Plans Gold Education Plan.
☐ Tell me about other Philam Plans Products.
Fill out this coupon and send to Product Marketing Department, Philam Plans, Inc.
4/F Times Plaza Bldg., Taft Ave. cor. UN Ave., Ermita, Manila or fax to 400-4171,
Call us now at 528-5200 or logon to www.philamplans.com.ph

Name:
Age:
Address:
Tel. Nos:

PHILAM PLANS

Number One in its industry . . .

From page 11



PHILAM Plans call center representative answer queries from planholders and agents.

Good corporate citizen. In 2002, Philam Plans continued to strictly comply with the statutory standards set by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Even before SEC issued Memorandum Circular No. 2 or the Code of Corporate Governance last 2002, Philam Plans, together with the rest of the Philam Group, was already making its own initiatives toward increased transparency and good corporate governance.

Meanwhile, international affiliate American International Group (AIG) already put in place a compliance code as an anti-money laundering measure. Provisions on responsible corporate behavior likewise dictated corporate practices of AIG member companies, which includes the Philam Group of Companies in the Philippines. Voted Most Admired Company by private businessmen, AIG sets strict standards and rules to ensure that its members practice integrity in doing business.

As its way of policing its operations, a compliance officer monitors Philam Plans', and the rest of the Philam Group's, compliance to law. An AIG over-all compliance officer likewise looks into the conduct of its members.

Aside from its good corporate governance practices, Philam Plans was also the first to comply with SEC's requirements on minimum paid-up capital of P100 million. It has also long made its trust fund adequate, according to SEC standards, for the contracted benefits of its planholders. Likewise, it practices utmost care and financial prudence in its investment practices, steering clear from risky ventures that could compromise planholders' funds.

> Aside from its good corporate governance practices, Philam Plans was also the first to comply with SEC's requirements on minimum paid-up capital of P100 million

Professional Management. To improve the competence and professionalism of its management team as well as the staff, Philam Plans volunteered membership to the Life Office Management Association (LOMA) in June 1999. A global organization that counts among its members the leading life, health and financial services companies in the world, LOMA recognized its efforts in developing its human resources by awarding it with an Excellence in Education Award in 2001.

Innovative Products. In 2002, Philam Plans has made its products even more responsive to the needs of the market. It launched 3 variants in its pension line—the Philam Future Fund, Future Fund Plus and Future Fund Prime, each having features tailor fit for the different requirements and needs of Filipinos from different income levels. It likewise made its Philam Gold Education Plan more responsive through the no-nominee feature, allowing childless couples or individuals preparing for future education. Finally, the Philam Ultima Life Plan becomes more than a memorial plan. It is a total investment plan which provides cash to spend for one's living expenses and funds to be left behind for the family when the inevitable happens.

Most comprehensive agency benefits package. Philam Plans continued to offer its sales force the most comprehensive benefits package, the best in the industry. Consider the benefits: a group insurance and health coverage, an accident and health coverage and a group medical/ health insurance program that answers for any hospitalization or medical expenses incurred from accident and disability.

There are car loan and housing loan facilities to enable a sales associate the necessary mobility and prestige. There are business equipment loan facilities meant to equip a sales associate with the necessary tools needed in the business. Agency leaders are provided business expansion financing which will enable them to put up offices in areas not currently serviced by a Philam Plans office. The same business loan can provide for the purchase of office condominium units for their agency operations.

As an affiliate of the American International Group (AIG), Philam Plans is also able to offer its sales associates' dependents a scholarship grant through the Starr Foundation Scholarship Program. Added to these benefits are innumerable perks and rewards given through the company's lineup of contests and drives, like the Lakbayan and Globetrotters programs— travel incentives to reward top producers with all-expense paid vacation trips here and abroad!

Caring for the sales associates of Philam Plans does not stop with these benefits. More than insurance and health coverages, loans, scholarships, rewards and incentives, the company ensures the Philam Plans agent not only has a job in the company but a career he can depend on for life!

PHILAM Plans Globetrotters delegates in Spain last year.

Professional growth is apparent in the Philam Plans agency system. Parameters are set to assist the agency leaders in building their respective agencies and expanding their network. Through the Learning Academy, customized training is offered by the company for the leader's growth and development— selling, recruitment, agency management and business building. Key result areas are likewise identified to give each and every individual in the agency force the opportunity to be promoted.

The Agency Management System has been put in place to motivate the salesforce to strive for optimum and quality work. With this standard, the stable and serious performers are retained, recognized and rewarded.

No doubt the manner by which Philam Plans treats its sales force contributes to its leadership post. On its 14th year, Philam Plans continues to aim for the top. It brings its standard of excellence to a higher level by aiming to "Break Away" from the rest and thereby ensure its customers unmatched products and services for a secured tomorrow.

LAST 2002, Philam Plans Globetrotters delegates went on an all-expense paid trip to Spain.

PHILAM Plans sales force excites their teams as new products were launched during the kick-off sales rally.

PHILAM PLANS

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2002

ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	P	209,548,212
Investments		
Trust Funds		6,516,159,044
Bonds, government and other securities		1,070,299,565
Allowance for decline in value of investments in shares of stock		(148,682,832)
Due Installments		226,304,261
Other Receivables - net of allowance for doubtful accounts of P 47,782,160		334,179,197
Deferred Commissions		932,897,834
Prepaid Expenses		19,333,482
Deferred Income Tax		15,290,291
Property and Equipment - net		64,175,422
Miscellaneous Deposits and Other Assets		20,672,298
TOTAL ASSETS	P	9,260,176,774
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	P	1,148,997,165
Income tax payable		4,580,382
Actuarial reserve liabilities		6,966,289,166
TOTAL LIABILITIES	P	8,119,866,713
Stockholders' Equity		
Capital stock	P	200,000,000
Reserve for fluctuations in investments in shares of stocks		(148,682,832)
Accumulated trust fund income		1,200,735,459
Retained earnings		(111,742,566)
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		1,140,310,061
TOTAL LIABILITIES & STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	P	9,260,176,774

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
CITY OF MANILA) S.S.

We, Jesus G. Holileña and Teresita O. Salonga, of the above-mentioned pre-need company do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above Statement of Condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief

(Sgd.) JESUS G. HOLILENA, FLMI, LLIF
President & CEO

(Sgd.) TERESITA O. SALONGA
Treasurer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 22nd day of April, 2003 at Manila affiants exhibiting to me their Community Tax Certificate No. 12248811, issued at Manila on February 20, 2003 and Community Tax Certificate No. 20829752, issued at Manila February 20, 2003, respectively.

Doc. No. 423
Page No. 94
Book No. 3
Series of 2003

(Sgd.) BENJAMIN S. ABIS, JR.
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2003
PTR No. 1857115/1-14-03/Manila
IBP OR#554316/FEB 06, 2002

PHILAM PLANS

(Consolidated Trust Fund)

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2002

ASSETS		
Cash	P	84,748,728
Investments in shares of stock, common trust funds, bonds and other debt instruments		6,123,194,121
Interest receivable		173,174,512
Dividends receivable		58,216
Prepaid premium		2,347,951
Other receivables and other assets		173,969,596
	P	6,557,493,124
LESS LIABILITIES		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		41,334,080
	P	6,516,159,044
NET EQUITY		
Fund balance, beginning of year	P	4,426,664,630
Additional deposits - net of withdrawals		1,532,651,576
	P	5,959,316,206
Net Income		556,842,838
Fund balance, end of year	P	6,516,159,044

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
CITY OF MANILA) S.S.

We, Jesus G. Holileña and Teresita O. Salonga, of the above-mentioned pre-need company do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above Statement of Condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

(Sgd.) JESUS G. HOLILENA, FLMI, LLIF
President & CEO

(Sgd.) TERESITA O. SALONGA
Treasurer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 22nd day of April, 2003 at Manila affiants exhibiting to me their Community Tax Certificate No. 12248811, issued at Manila on February 20, 2003 and Community Tax Certificate No. 20829752, issued at Manila February 20, 2003, respectively.

Doc. No. 424
Page No. 94
Book No. 3
Series of 2003

(Sgd.) BENJAMIN S. ABIS, JR
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2003
PTR No. 1857115/1-14-03/Manila
IBP OR#554316/FEB 06, 2002

VISION
美
景
BRINGING
OUT THE
TREASURES

AGENCY managers like Sammy Tan get recognition for their excellent sales performance.

A TEAMBUILDING activity during the Lakbayan celebrations provide sales associates opportunity to bond together.

NOT ONLY good in selling but also in performing—Philam Plans sales associates showcase their talents during Talent's Night.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

PHILAM PLANS

Number One in its industry . . .

From page 11

PHILAM Plans call center representative ver queries planholders ents.

Good corporate citizen. In 2002, Philam Plans continued to strictly comply with the statutory standards set by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Even before SEC issued Memorandum Circular No. 2 or the Code of Corporate Governance last 2002, Philam Plans, together with the rest of the Philam Group, was already making its own initiatives toward increased transparency and good corporate governance.

Meanwhile, international affiliate American International Group (AIG) already put in place a compliance code as an anti-money laundering measure. Provisions on responsible corporate behavior likewise dictated corporate practices of AIG member companies, which includes the Philam Group of Companies in the Philippines. Voted Most Admired Company by private businessmen, AIG sets strict standards and rules to ensure that its members practice integrity in doing business.

As its way of policing its operations, a compliance officer monitors Philam Plans', and the rest of the Philam Group's, compliance to law. An AIG over-all compliance officer likewise looks into the conduct of its members.

> Aside from its good corporate governance practices, Philam Plans was also the first to comply with SEC's requirements on minimum paid-up capital of P100 million

Aside from its good corporate governance practices, Philam Plans was also the first to comply with SEC's requirements on minimum paid-up capital of P100 million. It has also long made its trust fund adequate, according to SEC standards, for the contracted benefits of its planholders. Likewise, it practices utmost care and financial prudence in its investment practices, steering clear from risky ventures that could compromise planholders' funds.

Professional Management. To improve the competence and professionalism of its management team as well as the staff, Philam Plans volunteered membership to the Life Office Management Association (LOMA) in June 1999. A global organization that counts among its members the leading life, health and financial services companies in the world, LOMA recognized its efforts in developing its human resources by awarding it with an Excellence in Education Award in 2001.

Innovative Products. In 2002, Philam Plans has made its products even more responsive to the needs of the market. It launched 3 variants in its pension line—the Philam Future Fund, Future Fund Plus and Future Fund Prime, each having features tailor fit for the different requirements and needs of Filipinos from different income levels. It likewise made its Philam Gold Education Plan more responsive through the no-nominee feature, allowing childless couples or individuals preparing for future education. Finally, the Philam Ultima Life Plan becomes more than a memorial plan. It is a total investment plan which provides cash to spend for one's living expenses and funds to be left behind for the family when the inevitable happens.

Most comprehensive agency benefits package. Philam Plans continued to offer its sales force the most comprehensive benefits package, the best in the industry. Consider the benefits: a group insurance and health coverage, an accident and health coverage and a group medical/health insurance program that answers for any hospitalization or medical expenses incurred from accident and disability.

There are car loan and housing loan facilities to enable a sales associate the necessary mobility and prestige. There are business equipment loan facilities meant to equip a sales associate with the necessary tools needed in the business. Agency leaders are provided business expansion financing which will enable them to put up offices in areas not currently serviced by a Philam Plans office. The same business loan can provide for the purchase of office condominium units for their agency operations.

As an affiliate of the American International Group (AIG), Philam Plans is also able to offer its sales associates' dependents a scholarship grant through the Starr Foundation Scholarship Program. Added to these benefits are innumerable perks and rewards given through the company's lineup of contests and drives, like the Lakbayan and Globetrotters programs— travel incentives to reward top producers with all-expense paid vacation trips here and abroad!

Caring for the sales associates of Philam Plans does not stop with these benefits. More than insurance and health coverages, loans, scholarships, rewards and incentives, the company ensures the Philam Plans agent not only has a job in the company but a career he can depend on for life!

Professional growth is apparent in the Philam Plans agency system. Parameters are set to assist the agency leaders in building their respective agencies and expanding their network. Through the Learning Academy, customized training is offered by the company for the leader's growth and development— selling, recruitment, agency management and business building. Key result areas are likewise identified to give each and every individual in the agency force the opportunity to be promoted.

The Agency Management System has been put in place to motivate the salesforce to strive for optimum and quality work. With this standard, the stable and serious performers are retained, recognized and rewarded.

No doubt the manner by which Philam Plans treats its sales force contributes to its leadership post. On its 14th year, Philam Plans continues to aim for the top. It brings its standard of excellence to a higher level by aiming to "Break Away" from the rest and thereby ensure its customers unmatched products and services for a secured tomorrow.

PHILAM Plans Globetrotters delegates in Spain last year.

LAST 2002, Philam Plans Globetrotters delegates went on an all-expense paid trip to Spain.

PHILAM Plans sales force excites their teams as new products were launched during the kick-off sales rally.

PHILAM PLANS

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2002

ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	P	209,548,212
Investments		
Trust Funds		6,516,159,044
Bonds, government and other securities		1,070,299,565
Allowance for decline in value of investments in shares of stock		(148,682,832)
Due Installments		226,304,261
Other Receivables - net of allowance for doubtful accounts of P 47,782,160		334,179,197
Deferred Commissions		932,897,834
Prepaid Expenses		19,333,482
Deferred Income Tax		15,290,291
Property and Equipment - net		64,175,422
Miscellaneous Deposits and Other Assets		20,672,298
TOTAL ASSETS	P	9,260,176,774
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	P	1,148,997,165
Income tax payable		4,580,382
Actuarial reserve liabilities		6,966,289,166
TOTAL LIABILITIES	P	8,119,866,713
Stockholders' Equity		
Capital stock	P	200,000,000
Reserve for fluctuations in investments in shares of stocks		(148,682,832)
Accumulated trust fund income		1,200,735,459
Retained earnings		(111,742,566)
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		1,140,310,061
TOTAL LIABILITIES & STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	P	9,260,176,774

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
CITY OF MANILA) S.S

We, Jesus G. Hollena and Teresita O. Salonga, of the above-mentioned pre-need company do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above Statement of Condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief

(Sgd.) JESUS G. HOLLENA, FLMI, LLIF
President & CEO

(Sgd.) TERESITA O. SALONGA
Treasurer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 22nd day of April, 2003 at Manila affiants exhibiting to me their Community Tax Certificate No. 12248811 issued at Manila on February 20, 2003 and Community Tax Certificate No. 20829752, issued at Manila February 20, 2003, respectively.

Doc. No. 423
Page No. 94
Book No. [illegible]
Series of 2003

(Sgd.) BENJAMIN S. ABIS, JR
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2003
PTR No. 1857115/1-14-03/Manila
IBP OR#554316/FEB 06, 2002

PHILAM PLANS

(Consolidated Trust Fund)

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2002

ASSETS		
Cash	P	84,748,728
Investments in shares of stock, common trust funds, bonds and other debt instruments		6,123,194,121
Interest receivable		173,174,512
Dividends receivable		58,216
Prepaid premium		2,347,951
Other receivables and other assets		173,969,596
	P	6,557,493,124
LESS LIABILITIES		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		41,334,080
	P	6,516,159,044
NET EQUITY		
Fund balance, beginning of year	P	4,426,664,630
Additional deposits - net of withdrawals		1,532,651,576
	P	5,959,316,206
Net Income		556,842,838
Fund balance, end of year	P	6,516,159,044

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
CITY OF MANILA) S.S

We, Jesus G. Hollena and Teresita O. Salonga of the above-mentioned pre-need company do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above Statement of Condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief

(Sgd.) JESUS G. HOLLENA, FLMI, LLIF
President & CEO

(Sgd.) TERESITA O. SALONGA
Treasurer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 22nd day of April, 2003 at Manila affiants exhibiting to me their Community Tax Certificate No. 12248811 issued at Manila on February 20, 2003 and Community Tax Certificate No. 20829752, issued at Manila February 20, 2003, respectively.

Doc. No. 424
Page No. 94
Book No. B
Series of 2003

(Sgd.) BENJAMIN S. ABIS, JR
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2003
PTR No. 1857115/1-14-03/Manila
IBP OR#554316/FEB 06, 2002

VISION
美景
BRINGING OUT THE TREASURES

AGENCY managers like Sammy Tan get recognition for their excellent sales performance.

A TEAMBUILDING activity during the Lakbayan celebrations provide sales associates opportunity to bond together.

NOT ONLY good in selling but also in performing—Philam Plans sales associates showcase their talents during Talent's Night.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

PHILAM PLANS

The company that cares always tries its best

FILIPINO televiewers are so familiar with different kinds of stories watched in soap operas or primetime dramas. There are the personalities who have once been famous and respected in their chosen field, but upon having mismanaged their savings, now find themselves living the poor man's life. There is the story of the typical OFW who, upon coming home to the Philippines and living the life of a millionaire, finds himself losing everything and more than what he had to start with. Truly, stories like these find us engrossed. We feel for the victims and their families, and are saddened by the fact that these are not merely fiction, but stories that happen in real life.

The more sorrowful truth is that for many of these people, the cycle of uncertainty is never-ending. It can go down for generations as parents are too busy surviving to even think about a good education, the so-called equalizer, for their children. Dreams of a comfortable life remain just that—dreams.

As a company that truly cares, Philam Plans tries its best to help. In 2001, the leading pre-need company developed a one-time pay, lapse-free pension plan that can be bought in certificates. The idea is to enable individuals with seasonal income the opportunity to own a pre-need plan. Since their earnings are unstable, they can buy their plan whenever they have the funds. Philam Plans called the plan "Gintong Yaman"— its way of providing Filipinos a chance to fulfill their dreams or merely to break the cycle of uncertainty in the family.

Other product offerings—Philam Gold Education Plans, Philam Ultima Life Plan and the company's pension line products were all designed to respond to the Filipino's changing needs. Innovations in product features and benefits are all based on market needs in order to make the planholders' investment well worth it. In fact, as its competitors were downsizing at the height of the economic crisis last year, Philam Plans was beefing up its Marketing departments in an effort to come out with ways on how to make the company's products more responsive and innovative.

This compassion and concern for the welfare of its countrymen is well rooted in the company's corporate culture. Managed and led by persons of high moral conscience, Philam Plans seriously takes its mission of improving the social well-being of the Filipino. Participation in and support of charitable programs are therefore encouraged.

On its 14th company celebration on April 25, 2003, the company will be on its 8th year of holding a bloodletting project. In a given year, Philam Plans holds at least two bloodletting events, with at least one held in a provincial branch. Initiated by founding President and CEO Eliseo Dizon, Jr. and carried on by current President and CEO Jesus G. Hofileña, the project is widely supported by the whole Philam Group of Companies.

Another recipient of the company's social responsibility programs is neighboring UP-PGH. Every December, the Philam Plans Apostolic Group visit poor in-patients at the children's charity ward of the public hospital. Donations from employees and kind individuals are given out by the employees.

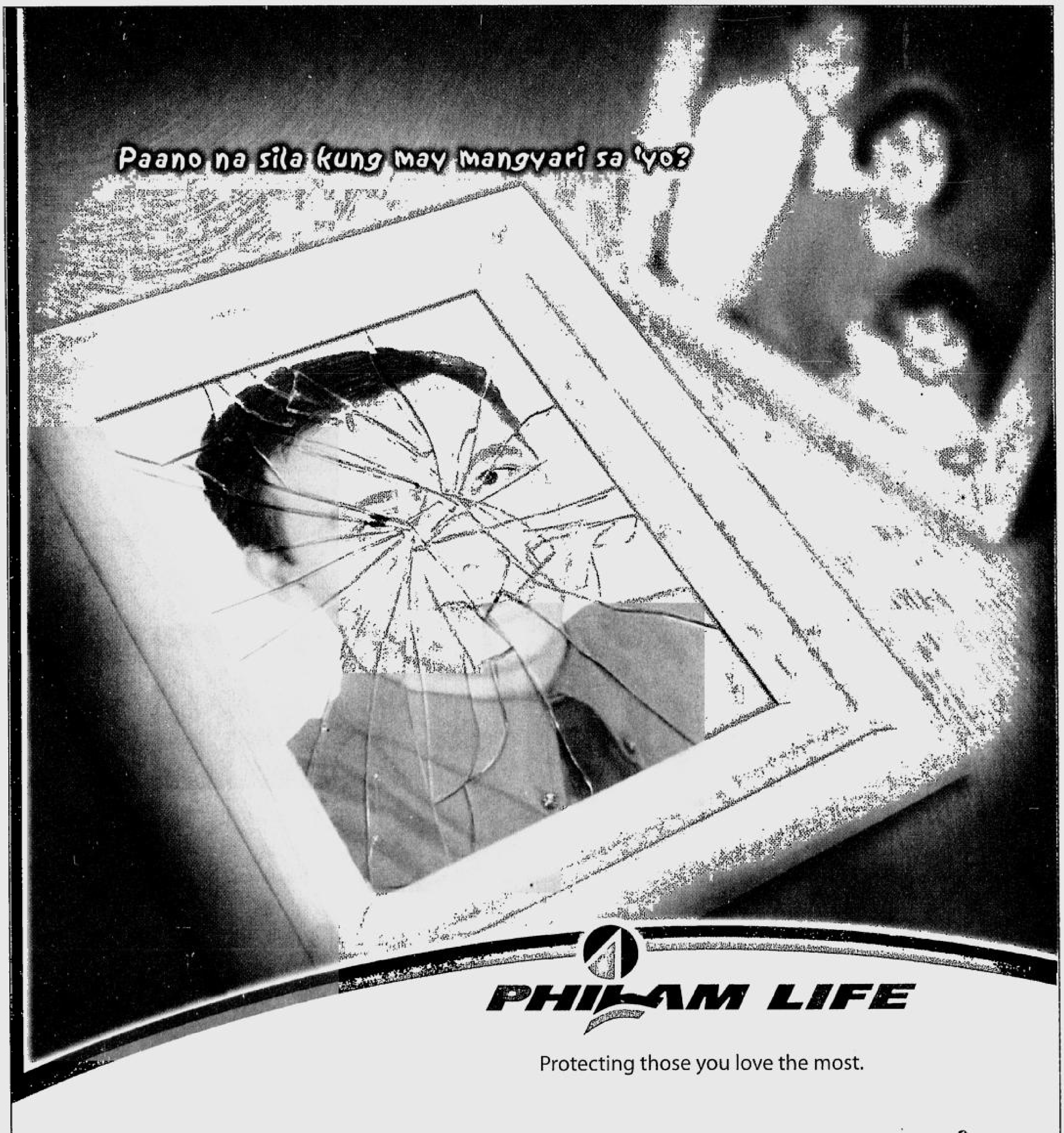
Aside from these, Philam Plans also supports projects of the Philam Foundation, a Philam company in-charge of the socio-civic programs of the Philam Group. On April 25 in fact, Philam Plans is accepting donations to the Aid for Basilan Children project, a flagship program of Philam Foundation that aims to help children caught in the crossfire of war in Mindanao.

This spirit of bayanihan is alive even inside office halls. An e-mail from a regional manager asking for blood donations for his bedridden agency manager produces numerous volunteers from both employee and sales force. A manager whose home—and all possessions—was razed by fire, receives support in terms of clothes and other commodities from his co-workers. Employees experiencing death in the family receives cash donation given by employees from their payroll. Janitors and messengers enjoy an abundant Christmas because of the year-round Peso Drive initiated by the employees. Even tragic events experienced by members of the AIG family abroad, like the 9/11 and the fire in Ho Chi Minh city, quickly produces Samaritan acts.

While Philam Plans is clearly a business, it is a business steered by conscience and driven by the desire to help. The company mission says it clearly, "to uplift the economic and social well-being of the Filipino people"—a mission proudly carried out by everyone in the organization—beyond profit, beyond income, beyond public relations and company image. (*Ash B. Creo*)

PRESIDENT and CEO Jesus G. Hofileña, FLMI, LLIF joins the Philam Plans Apostolate Group in spreading Christmas cheer to UP-PGH wards.

PHILAM Plans employees ready to give their donations.



Paano na sila kung may mangyari sa 'yo?
PHILAM LIFE

Protecting those you love the most.

Contact your Philamlife Agent
or Call 528-2003.
Ngayon na!

Accidents can happen... anytime, anywhere, to anyone. Kaya dapat maghanda. Prepare while you can. Insure while you can. Let Philamlife's Accident Insurance Products protect you and your family from the financial burdens that an accident can bring. Kahit na ano pa ang mangyari, protektado ang iyong pamilya ng Philamlife.

AIG A Member of American International Group, Inc.

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services Life and General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre-Need Plans • Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards

PHILAM PLANS

The company that cares always tries its best

FILIPINO televiewers are so familiar with different kinds of stories watched in soap operas or primetime dramas. There are the personalities who have once been famous and respected in their chosen field, but upon having mismanaged their savings, now find themselves living the poor man's life. There is the story of the typical OFW who, upon coming home to the Philippines and living the life of a millionaire, finds himself losing everything and more than what he had to start with. Truly, stories like these find us engrossed. We feel for the victims and their families, and are saddened by the fact that these are not merely fiction, but stories that happen in real life.

The more sorrowful truth is that for many of these people, the cycle of uncertainty is never-ending. It can go down for generations as parents are too busy surviving to even think about a good education, the so-called equalizer, for their children. Dreams of a comfortable life remain just that—dreams.

As a company that truly cares, Philam Plans tries its best to help. In 2001, the leading pre-need company developed a one-time pay, lapse-free pension plan that can be bought in certificates. The idea is to enable individuals with seasonal income the opportunity to own a pre-need plan. Since their earnings are unstable, they can buy their plan whenever they have the funds. Philam Plans called the plan "Gintong Yaman"— its way of providing Filipinos a chance to fulfill their dreams or merely to break the cycle of uncertainty in the family.

Other product offerings—Philam Gold Education Plans, Philam Ultima Life Plan and the company's pension line products were all designed to respond to the Filipino's changing needs. Innovations in product features and benefits are all based on market needs in order to make the planholders' investment well worth it. In fact, as its competitors were downsizing at the height of the economic crisis last year, Philam Plans was beefing up its Marketing departments in an effort to come-out with ways on how to make the company's products more responsive and innovative.

This compassion and concern for the welfare of its countrymen is well rooted in the company's corporate culture. Managed and led by persons of high moral conscience, Philam Plans seriously takes its mission of improving the social well-being of the Filipino. Participation in and support of charitable programs are therefore encouraged.

On its 14th company celebration on April 25, 2003, the company will be on its 8th year of holding a bloodletting project. In a given year, Philam Plans holds at least two bloodletting events, with at least one held in a provincial branch. Initiated by founding President and CEO Eliseo Dizon, Jr. and carried on by current President and CEO Jesus G. Hofileña, the project is widely supported by the whole Philam Group of Companies.

Another recipient of the company's social responsibility programs is neighboring UP-PGH. Every December, the Philam Plans Apostolic Group visit poor in-patients at the children's charity ward of the public hospital. Donations from employees and kind individuals are given out by the employees.

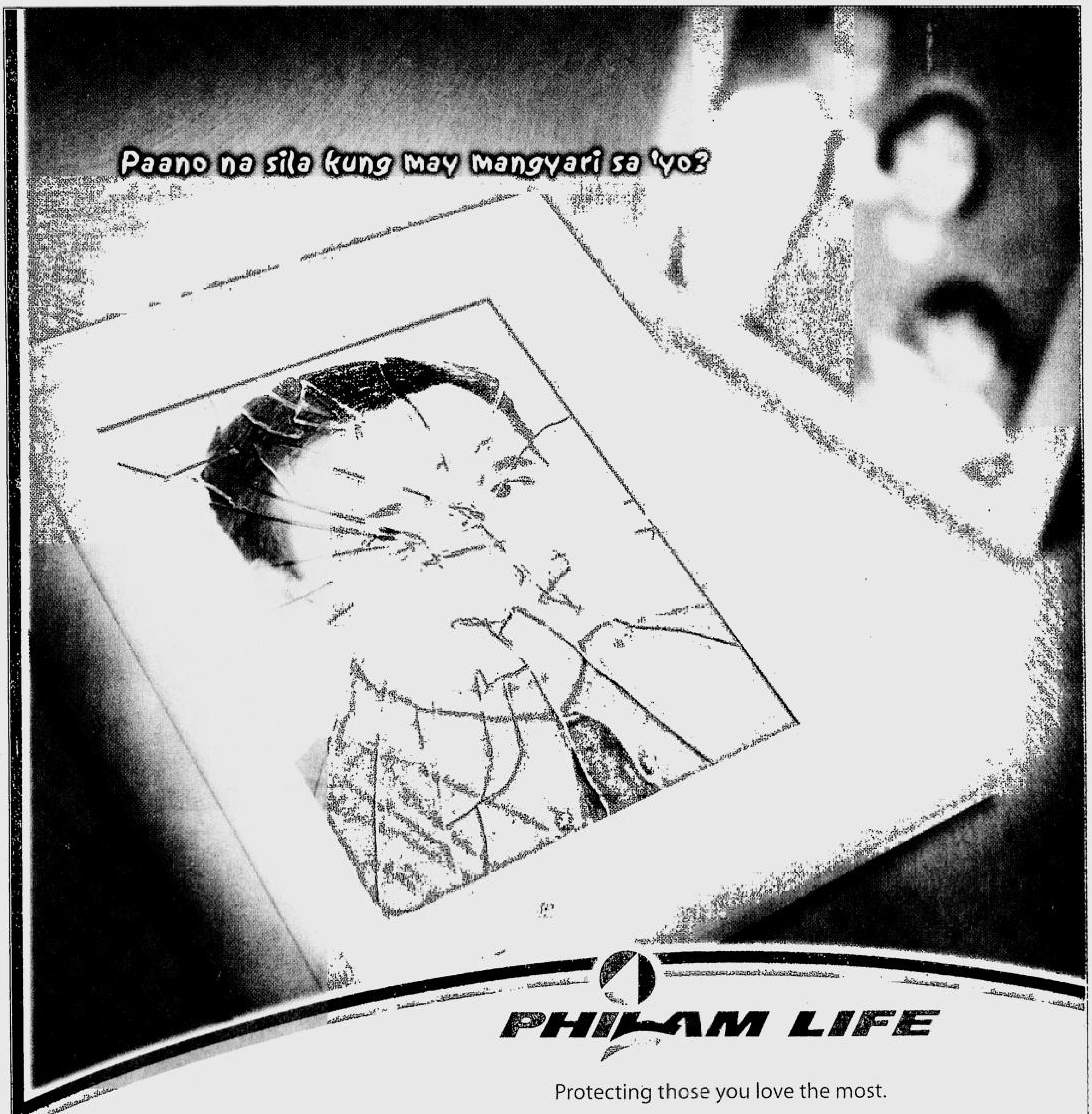
Aside from these, Philam Plans also supports projects of the Philam Foundation, a Philam company in-charge of the socio-civic programs of the Philam Group. On April 25 in fact, Philam Plans is accepting donations to the Aid for Basilan Children project, a flagship program of Philam Foundation that aims to help children caught in the crossfire of war in Mindanao.

This spirit of bayanihan is alive even inside office halls. An e-mail from a regional manager asking for blood donations for his bedridden agency manager produces numerous volunteers from both employee and sales force. A manager whose home—and all possessions—was razed by fire, receives support in terms of clothes and other commodities from his co-workers. Employees experiencing death in the family receives cash donation given by employees from their payroll. Janitors and messengers enjoy an abundant Christmas because of the year-round Peso Drive initiated by the employees. Even tragic events experienced by members of the AIG family abroad, like the 9/11 and the fire in Ho Chi Minh city, quickly produces Samaritan acts.

While Philam Plans is clearly a business, it is a business steered by conscience and driven by the desire to help. The company mission says it clearly, "to uplift the economic and social well-being of the Filipino people" -a mission proudly carried out by everyone in the organization--beyond profit, beyond income, beyond public relations and company image. *(Ash B. Creo)*

PRESIDENT and CEO Jesus G. Hofileña, FLMI, LLIF joins the Philam Plans Apostolate Group in spreading Christmas cheer to UP-PGH wards.

PHILAM Plans employees ready to give their donations.



PHILAM LIFE

Protecting those you love the most.

Contact your Philamlife Agent
or Call 528-2003.
Ngayon na!

Accidents can happen... anytime, anywhere, to anyone. Kaya dapat maghanda. Prepare while you can. Insure while you can. Let Philamlife's Accident Insurance Products protect you and your family from the financial burdens that an accident can bring. Kahit na ano pa ang mangyari, protektado ang iyong pamilya ng Philamlife.

AIG

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services Life and General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre Need Plans • Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards

PHILAMCARE salutes its Xtraordinary achievers!

the 17TH ANNUAL AWARDS Night

MAKATI SHANGRI-LA, MAKATI CITY

" With the changing business environment and the growing health risk people face, managing an HMO today is such a challenging task. As we move on to 2003,...we encourage all of our awardees to continue to do well and to pursue greater heights."

-JOSE L. CUISIA, JR.
Chairman of the Board
PHILAMCARE Health Systems, Inc.

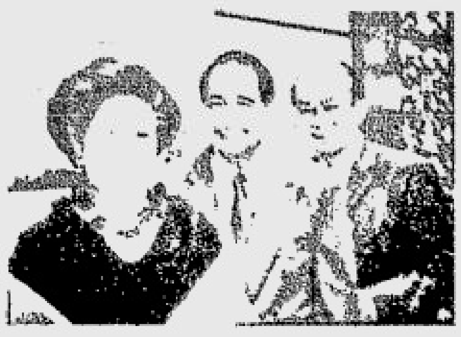
ROWENA BUENO-CRUZ
EVP-Marketing & Sales
PHILAMCARE Health Systems, Inc.

"We are here for [illegible]
I have come with [illegible]
From the [illegible]

[illegible]

TOP AGENCIES
Individual Accounts Category

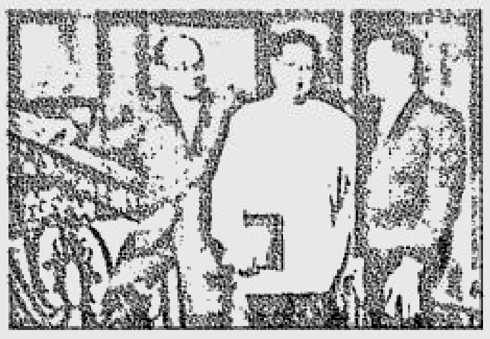
1st - PHILAMLIFE Antonio and Associates
2nd - PHILAMLIFE Del Mundo and Associates
3rd - PHILAMLIFE Capule and Associates



From L to R: Lourdes Del Mundo, Enrico Capule and Jose Isagani Antonio

TOP AGENCIES
Group Accounts Category

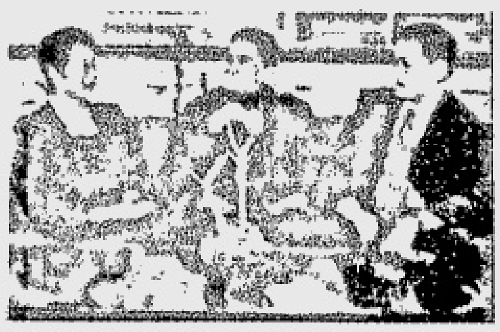
1st - PHILAMLIFE Ocampo and Associates
2nd - PHILAMPLANS-Dela Merced and Associates
3rd - PHILAMLIFE Antonio and Associates



From L to R: Jose Isagani Antonio, Roberto Dela Merced and Antonio Cabusao (representative of Ocampo and Associates)

TOP UNITS
Individual Accounts Category

1st - MA. ZENAIDA ANTONIO UNIT
(PHILAMLIFE Antonio and Associates)
2nd - EDUARDA OROGO UNIT
(PHILAMLIFE Ocampo and Associates)
3rd - RODOLFO BARTOLOME UNIT
(PHILAMLIFE L. D. Roque and Associates)



From L to R, Ma. Zenaida Antonio, Rodolfo Bartolome and Antonio Cabusao (representative of Eduarda Orogo)

TOP AGENTS
Individual Accounts Category

1st - JOSE LOPIDO
(PHILAMLIFE - Prism Agency)
2nd - RODOLFO BARTOLOME
(PHILAMLIFE - L.D Roque and Associates)
3rd - ZENAIDA ANTONIO
(PHILAMLIFE - Antonio and Associates)

From L to R: Jose Lopido, Ma. Zenaida Antonio and Rodolfo Bartolome

TOP UNITS
Group Accounts Category

1st - ARMANDO SAMSON UNIT
(PHILAMPLANS - Dela Merced and Associates)
2nd - EDUARDA OROGO UNIT
(PHILAMLIFE - Ocampo and Associates)
3rd - GODOFREDO QUEMUEL UNIT
(PHILAMPLANS)

From L to R. Godofredo Quemuel Jr., Armando Samson and Antonio Cabusao (representative of Eduarda Orogo)

TOP AGENTS
Group Accounts Catego

1st - ADRIAN OCAMPO
(PHILAMLIFE - Ocampo and Associates)
2nd - ARMANDO SAMSON
(PHILAMPLANS - Dela Merced & Associates)
3rd - EDUARDA OROGO
(PHILAMLIFE-Ocampo and Associates)

Adrian Ocampo

Armando Samson

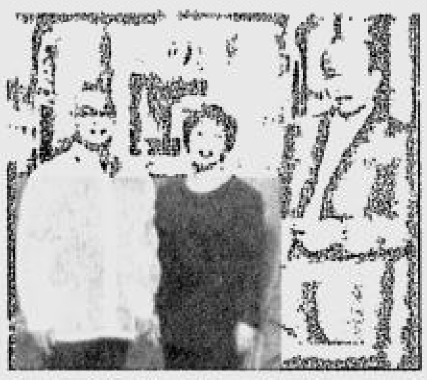
Eduarda Orogo

SPECIAL CITATIONS

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR
GODOFREDO QUEMUEL JR
(PHILAMPLANS)

BABY GROUP SPECIALIST OF THE YEAR
NANCY BAUTISTA
(PHILAMLIFE - Espiritu and Associates)

AGENCY WITH MOST NUMBER OF GROUP ACCOUNTS CLOSED
PHILAMLIFE - Antonio and Associates



From L to R. Godofredo Quemuel, Jr., Nancy Bautista and Jose Isagani Antonio

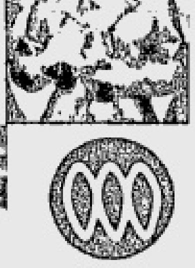
R&P

TRIP INCENTIVE QUALIFIERS

Standing from L to R. Roberto Tinsay, Me-Ann Mendoza-Villanueva of Jardine Lloyd Thompson Insurance Brokers, Inc., Rowena Panes and Sam Meris of Ayala Aon Risk Services, Inc
Seated from L to R. Godofredo Quemuel, Jr., Armando Samson, Cecile Ortiaga and Emmy Lagman Navarro of Marsh Philippines, Inc., and Antonio Cabusao (representative of Eduarda Orogo).

TOP BROKERS OF THE YEAR

1st - JARDINE LLOYD THOMPSON INSURANCE BROKERS, INC represented by Me-ann Mendoza Villanueva



2nd - AYALA AON RISK SERVICES, INC represented by Sam Meris and Rowena Panes

3rd [illegible] Solutions Incorporated
[illegible]ultant
[illegible] Broke

PHILAM CARE

7th Floor, Philamlife Bldg United Nations Avenue, Manila
Tel. No. 52[illegible] 528-3763 Telefax 528-3654

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of Financial Services
Life and General Insurance ❏ Property and Casualty Insurance
❏ Health Care Management ❏ Pre-Need Plans ❏ Savings and Mortgage
❏ Mutual Fund Investment ❏ Property Development ❏ Credit Cards

Mom always said life is worth living
because it's what we make of it that matters.

For someone diagnosed with cancer, life could take on a whole new meaning. Every moment is cherished, no minute goes to waste. This could be made easier when there are less things to worry about, like hospital bills. This is why we created **Philamlife Cancer Life Shield.** If you are diagnosed with any form of cancer, we will provide you with a lump sum benefit that you could use for costly medical treatments and consultations. This comes as a welcome reprieve considering that the Department of Health estimated cancer-related medical spending at P46.4 billion for 72,000 new cancer cases in 1998*. This translates to an average of P600,000 per year per patient in treatments alone--a huge sum that could deplete your family's life savings. With **Philamlife Cancer Life Shield,** you could let us take care of this little detail, because you've got more things in life to look forward to.

Talk to your Philamlife agent or call 528-2003.

CANCER
LIFE
SHIELD

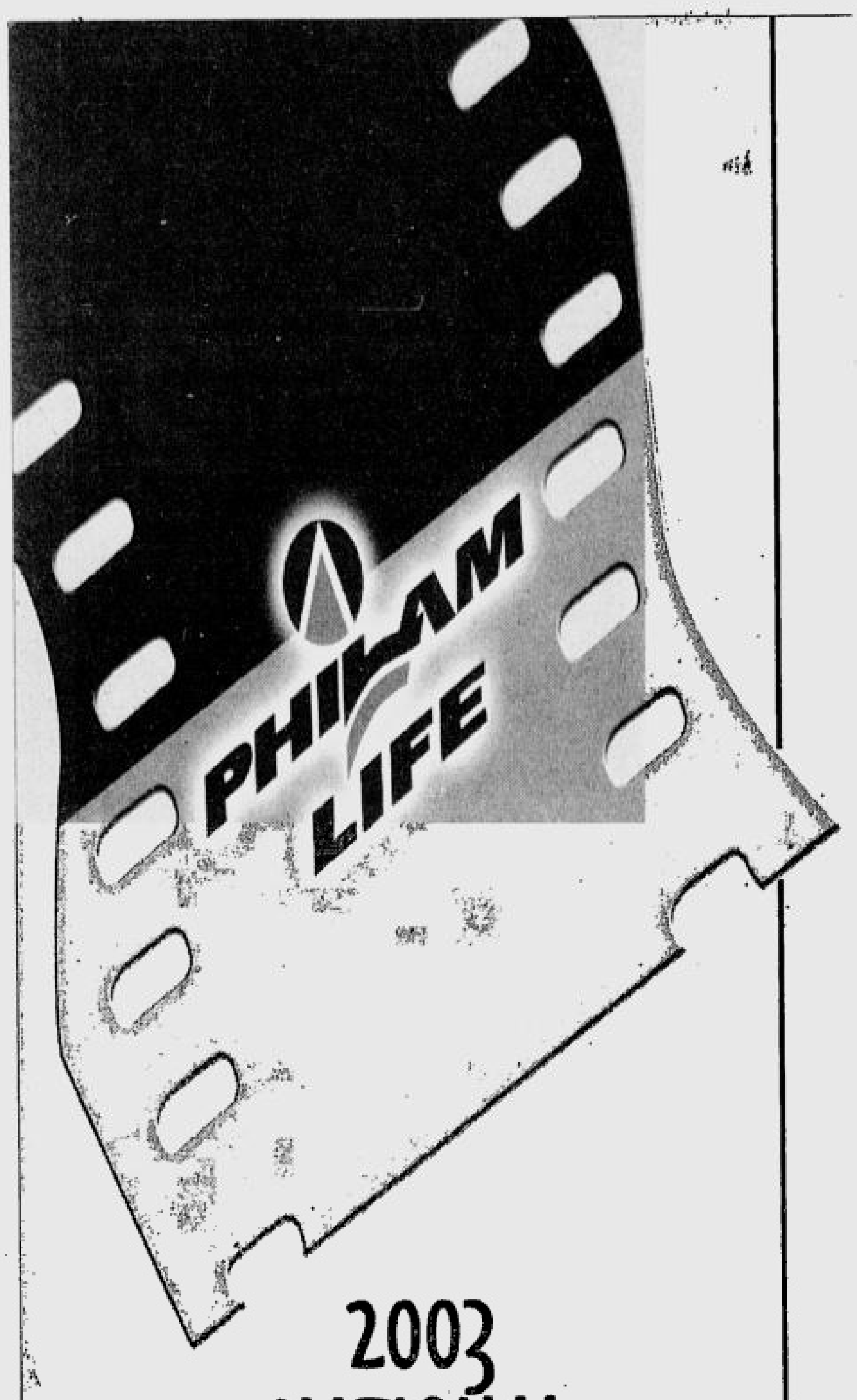
TLC

PHILAM LIFE
Are you ready for life?

AIG A Member of American International Group, Inc.

*Data care of

Philam Life • Philam Insurance • Philam Care • Philam Plans • Philam Savings Bank • Philam Asset Management • Philam Properties • AIG Credit Card



2003 NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Breaking Barriers

The Insurance Commission joins the Management of the Philippine American Life & General Insurance Company in honoring its exceptional underwriters for 2002.

I salute these men & women who have unceasingly committed themselves to making more Filipinos aware and avail of the benefits of life insurance. Owning a life insurance policy today becomes more relevant as the country and the world face numerous challenges and uncertainties.

May you forge on in your mission to improve the lives of your countrymen.

May you continue to be models for excellent service & dedication to your clients, profession and the industry.

And may you always serve as an inspiration to other underwriters in the life insurance selling profession.

Mabuhay!

EDUARDO T. MALINIS
Insurance Commissioner

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the men and women from Philamlife being honored in this year's National Recognition Program. Your commendable sales performance in 2002 has earned you the distinction of being National Honor Club awardees.

This honor for remarkable sales production in 2002 is a product of the Philamlife agency force's dedication and commitment to bring greater financial security and protection to more people. As national sales champions, you are expected to manifest the highest degree of sales competence, professionalism, integrity, and quality service to our policyholders and customers.

AIG is as well positioned as it ever has been in its history. Amidst the drastic market changes the world has experienced, AIG has proven its financial strength and stability through its ability to deliver its commitment to its clients. Aside from this, AIG boasts of the leadership in product innovation, developing creative and diversified solutions that address our customers' most pressing needs. While AIG has adapted to changing market conditions and customer preferences, we have adhered to the same high ethical standards in doing business. This unrivaled reputation for integrity, reliability and financial soundness has earned the trust, respect and loyalty of millions of individuals and institutions around the world.

On behalf of Philamlife and AIG, I would like to thank and congratulate the National Honor Club awardees. May this celebration bring greater joy and fulfillment in your career as life insurance agents. It is my hope that you carry on with your pursuit for excellence, continuously aiming for and achieving higher levels of success.

MAURICE R. GREENBERG
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
American International Group Inc. (AIG)
Chairman of the Board
Philippine American Life & General Insurance Company

Congratulations! It is with great pride and joy that I greet Philamlife's best and finest agents and agency leaders. This year's National Recognition Program showcases the agency force's excellence, with the outstanding sales performance of dedicated Philamlife insurance agents and agency leaders for fiscal year 2002. Our distinguished awardees have led the growth and leadership of Philamlife through their commitment and relentless effort to share the gift of life insurance to as many people.

Philamlife has been recognized for many years now for its excellence and for being a champion in the life insurance arena. While we hold much pride in our leadership, we should not rest on our laurels of success. The constant pursuit for growth and achievement of milestones is Philamlife's key to its continued leadership and excellence. May you, our national awardees, do the same—stretching your potential, continuously enhancing your professional skills, and tapping the best of your abilities. For excellence is not being the best, but doing your best.

On behalf of the Philamlife family, I would like to salute our National Awardees for a job well done. May you continue to serve as inspirations, models of professionalism, sales discipline and excellence.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

JOSE L. CUISIA, JR.
President & Chief Executive Officer

ASSOCIATES OF THE Year

Philamlife proudly hails its three most outstanding associates for 2002.

They led the entire agency force with their inspiring and unmatched sales performance thereby standing TALLEST among all their peers. They are prime examples of success and achievement.

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
NUMBER 1 CAREER AGENT
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
NUMBER 1 UNIT MANAGER
Antonio Associates

JOSE ISAGANI F. ANTONIO
NUMBER 1 AGENCY MANAGER
Antonio Associates

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT Awards

Philamlife's Top Career Agents and Agency Leaders who achieved the honor and distinction of being the Company's most productive sales professionals for Recognition Year 2002.

Career Agent Category

Philamlife's Top Career Agents who achieved the honor and distinction of being the Company's most productive Career Agents for Recognition Year 2002.

They stand out among a field of more than 8,000 Career Agents nationwide.

NATIONAL TOP CAREER AGENT

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MANILA AGENCIES

REYNOLD A. GAN
Gan Associates
TOP MANILA

LILY T. SY CHUA
Tanlo Associates
1st RUNNER-UP MANILA

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

ESTELA C. BELEN
Laguna-Falague Agency
TOP PROVINCIAL

RODOLFO M. MALLARI
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency
1st RUNNER-UP PROVINCIAL

Unit Manager Category

Philamlife's Top Unit Managers who achieved the honor and distinction of being the Company's most productive Unit Managers for Recognition Year 2002.

NATIONAL TOP UNIT MANAGER

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

MANILA AGENCIES

SEGUNDINA O. TAN
Tan Associates
TOP MANILA

EDUARDO A. FORDAN
Antonio Associates
1st RUNNER-UP MANILA

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

JESUS G. ESMA, JR., *LUTCF*
Cebu-Tan Agency
TOP PROVINCIAL

EMERITA P. CARAO
INV-Mata Agency
1st RUNNER-UP PROVINCIAL

Agency Manager Category

Philamlife's Top Agency Managers who achieved the honor and distinction of being the Company's most productive Agency Managers for Recognition Year 2002.

NATIONAL TOP AGENCY MANAGER

JOSE ISAGANI F. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

MANILA AGENCIES

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Del Mundo Associates
TOP MANILA

JUAN A. TAN
Tan Associates
1st RUNNER-UP MANILA

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

JOHN P. MATA, JR.
INV-Mata Agency
TOP PROVINCIAL

MELBA L. TAN
Cebu-Tan Agency
1st RUNNER-UP PROVINCIAL

For the year 2002, we attempted to go "BEYOND LIMITS".

To extend ourselves a little bit more and outdo our previous performance…
To think outside of the box and visualize the possibilities of greater things to come…
To transcend our reachable dreams and aim for the bigger stars in the sky!

Capping the year with very respectable growth coming from all sources, we all can never forget the all time August high we had when we bagged a new sales record of Php 300 Million for the group!

Tonight, we recognize the gallant men and women from the agency force who all went beyond their limits and registered outstanding sales performance for the year! Their continued competence and professionalism are key drivers to our commitment to maintain our leadership in the life insurance industry.

To our roster of consistent sales awardees, your meeting and surpassing our ever increasing sales requirements and standards are solid proofs that you have the capability to remain dependable as you fulfill the big responsibility of securing the lives of your clients. To the new awardees, you have shown to the rest of our associates that "it can be done!". Further realizing that there is really no short cut to success, the kind of hard work you have put is indicative of your desire to be at your best even at the early stages of your selling career.

Together with our partners in marketing and profit centers, insurance operations and other support groups, we did go beyond our limits! Be with us as we continue to BREAK BARRIERS this 2003!

Congratulations everyone and Mabuhay!

JOSEFINO R. STO. DOMINGO, FLMI, LLIF
Executive Vice President-Sales & Marketing Group

Success does not merely mean one's accumulation of wealth, power, and honor for the work he has done. Rather, the true measure of success comes from one's ability to make a difference in people's lives, to know that one will leave the world a little bit better, and to know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is the real meaning of success. This is the privilege each Philamlife agent has the opportunity of bringing into realization.

Tonight, we honor and give thanks to the members of the Philamlife sales force who have achieved this brand of success. Your hard work and dedication has not only helped strengthen our Company's leadership in the life insurance industry but has certainly made a true and meaningful difference in the lives you have touched.

Fiscal Year 2002 was undoubtedly a major test for all of us. Your ability to triumphantly "Go Beyond Limits" despite the odds serves as true testimony of the commendation being accorded to you. Challenging times bring out the best in people and the best of people. It is with great pride then that I salute you all, our distinguished awardees for your exceptional performance.

Our battlecry for the year is "Breaking Barriers". As we move forward and face a new set of challenges, let us keep our enthusiasm alive and continue to grow ourselves from the lessons of the past. Let us tirelessly search for the good and the positive in every situation that comes our way. Let us make every obstacle our stepping stone towards greater service and success.

My sincerest congratulations to all!

ARIEL G. CANTOS
First Vice President & Chief Agency Officer

CHAIRMAN'S CABINET

This exclusive honor club, dedicated to Philamlife's Chairman, Maurice R. Greenberg, belongs to the top 15% of Philamlife's outstanding Agency Leaders

AGENCY CATEGORY

JOSE ISAGANI F. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Del Mundo Associates

JUAN A. TAN
Tan Associates

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

VERONICA S. GONZALEZ
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

ENRICO A. CAPULE
Capule Associates

DIRECT UNIT CATEGORY

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

VERONICA S. GONZALEZ
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Del Mundo Associates

REYNALDO N. MORTEL
Mortel Associates

JOSE ISAGANI F. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

MANUEL Y. USON
Uson Associates

SEGUNDINA O. TAN
Tan Associates

RUBEN E. FALAGUE
Laguna-Falague Agency

EDNA A. GAN
Gan Associates

ANTONINA A. DEL ROSARIO
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

LEAH E. PONIO
L. Ponio Associates

EDUARDO A. FORDAN
Antonio Associates

ROSA P. PAGADUAN
Pagaduan Associates

ISMAEL L. MELENDRES, JR.
Melendres Associates

CECILIA A. MELENDRES
Melendres Associates

PABLO O. TAMALA, JR.
Pagadian-Tamala Agency

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

In the tradition of excellence, these Agency Leaders have distinguished themselves with exceptional First Year Commission Income for Recognition Year 2002.

AGENCY CATEGORY

JOHN P. MATA, JR.
INV-Mata Agency

MELBA L. TAN
Cebu-Tan Agency

RUBEN E. FALAGUE
Laguna-Falague Agency

PRISCILO E. COMIA
Batangas-Comia Agency

JULIUS A. REYES
Nueva-Reyes Agency

LEORANDO G. CUNANAN
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

SERAPIO G. MAUNAHAN
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

CRISA G. NICDAO
Nicdao Associates

ERIC G. NICDAO
Nicdao Associates

MANUEL Y. USON
Uson Associates

ROSA P. PAGADUAN
Pagaduan Associates

ANTONIO R. VARIAS
Cavite-Varias Agency

ROBERTO A. BERNARDO
Bernardo Associates

FLORANTE R. PINEDA
Tarlac-Pineda Agency

DOMINGO B. BONGALA, SR.
Bongala Associates

YOLANDA M.L. ALTAVAS
Panay-Altavas Agency

PATRICIA E. BAGUI
Bagui Associates

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Espiritu Associates

HENRY M. ESPIRITU
Espiritu Associates

AURORA M. MATURINO
Bataan-Maturino Agency

ANTONINA A. DEL ROSARIO
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

EPIMACO F. BARUC
Cebu-Baruc Agency

CECILIA A. MELENDRES
Melendres Associates

ISMAEL L. MELENDRES, JR.
Melendres Associates

FERNANDO A. COSTES, JR.
North Luzon-Costes Agency

PROCESO G. MENDOZA
Mendoza Associates

LEAH E. PONIO
L. Ponio Associates

MODESTO T. MEDRANO
Cavite-Medrano Agency

LEONIDA D. ROQUE
L. Roque Associates

PABLO O. TAMALA, JR.
Pagadian-Tamala Agency

EDNA A. GAN
Gan Associates

FRANCISCO M. FLORES
La Trinidad-Flores Agency

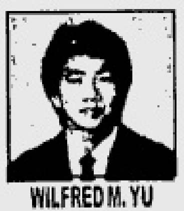
DIRECT UNIT CATEGORY

PRISCILO E. COMIA
Batangas-Comia Agency

CONSTANCIA S. VERGEL DE DIOS
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

JESUS G. ESMA, JR., *LUTCF*
Cebu-Tan Agency

BEVERLYN Y. NG
Tan Associates


WILFRED M. YU
Yu Associates

FLORANTE R. PINEDA
Tarlac-Pineda Agency

LOLITA C. TANLO
Tanlo Associates

NELIA L. LAUDICO
Del Mundo Associates

EMERITA P. CARAO
INV-Mata Agency

CORAZON KI ANG
Tan Associates

ROMEO M. RAMOS
Zambrano Associates

LUCILA H. KIERULF
Del Mundo Associates

ORLANDO T. ABANTO
Antonio Associates

ROQUE H. TAN
R. Tan Associates

AURORA M. MATURINO
Bataan-Maturino Agency

TERESITA G. MONTEVERDE, *LUTCF*
Tan Associates

GINA Z. MENDOZA
Mendoza Associates

JOSEFINA S. HIPOL
Bagui Associates

NARCISO M. SOLON
Del Mundo Associates

JOANNE T. SY
Sy-Cuaso Associates

TERESITA G. CUASO
Sy-Cuaso Associates

ERWIN JOSEPH M. Y. SAPLALA
Dy Associates

NELIA M. ZABALERIO
Zabalerio Associates

SERAPIO G. MAUNAHAN
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

VICENTE G. TAN
Cebu-Tan Agency

ADORACION P. PENALES
Cebu-Tan Agency

RAMONCITO R. MALIWANAG
Quezon-Maliwanag Agency

ROBERTO E. MENDOZA
Antonio Associates

JOSE J. MENDOZA
INV- Mata Agency

LEONILA A. BRITANIA
Bongala Associates

CARLOS C. VENERACION
Pagaduan Associates

MODESTO T. MEDRANO
Cavite-Medrano Agency

RODOLFO A. MANGALIAG
Mangaliag Associates

EPIMACO F. BARUC
Cebu-Baruc Agency

ROMUALDO V. MATURINO
Bulacan-Maturino Agency

CARINA G. LU
Tan Associates

MA. ELENA G. ASTURIAS
Del Mundo Associates

JOHN P. MATA, JR.
INV- Mata Agency

EDEN C. BUCCAT
Dy Associates

LETICIA G.O. ANG
Tan Associates

LEONARDO M. PALCUTAN
Iloilo-Palcutan Agency

YOLANDA M.L. ALTAVAS
Panay-Altavas Agency

NILDA C. UY
Del Mundo Associates

JAMES WALTER P. CAPILI
Zambrano Associates

CONCEPCION B. GONZAGA
Iloilo-Gonzaga Agency

DOMINGO B. BONGALA, SR.
Bongala Associates

FELISA S. PINEDA
Tarlac-Pineda Agency

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Espiritu Associates

HENRY M. ESPIRITU
Espiritu Associates

ZENAIDA A. PALMES
Del Mundo Associates

LYNARD M. MOLO
Cavite-Varias Agency

ADELAIDA C. HERNANDEZ
Antonio Associates

MA. CRISTINA B. MENDOZA
Bernardo Associates

ANTONIO S. LAPADA
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

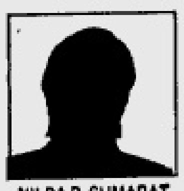
ANATALIA W. BRIONES
Bagui Associates

LILIA M. BORROMEO
INV- Mata Agency

ROLANDO V. VILLANUEVA
Nueva-Reyes Agency

MARIO A. DE GUZMAN
North Luzon-Costes Agency

LEORANDO G. CUNANAN
Batangas-Cunanan Agency


NILDA B. SUMABAT
Dy Associates

CATALINA J. GALMAN
Bataan-Maturino Agency

NOEMI M. POBLADOR
Antonio Associates

ROGELIO L. CRISOSTOMO
Antonio Associates

AQUILINA S. LEE
Cebu-Baruc Agency

MORITO C. PARCON
Tacurong-Parcon Agency

FLORENTINO I. DE LEON, JR.
Rizal-De Leon Agency

EVELYN T. TUASON
Del Mundo Associates

ANGEL F. BERNABE
Bernardo Associates

MA. VIOLETA S. MAGNAYE
Capule Associates

LEONIDA D. ROQUE
L. Roque Associates

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

MA. BELEN J. ELIZALDE
Negros Occ.-Elizalde Agency

ISABELA P. CARREON
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

AURORA A. ROMERO
MM Central I Direct

HERMINIA C. PEREZ
Tarlac-Pineda Agency

ESPERANZA T. BUENCONSEJO
Iloilo-Buenconsejo Agency

HELIODORO M. TINGSON
Panay-Altavas Agency

SALVADOR C. CABAEL
Capure Associates

LIM SU CHAN
Tan Associates

RENATO G. PEREZ
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

BENJAMIN R. DE GOMA
Cavite-Medrano Agency

BEATRIZ F. ALCAIN
Ilocos-Abra Agency

FERDINAND P. AQUINO
Pampanga-Aquino Agency

SUSAN M. GAYATIN
Cebu-Tan Agency

CARLOS S. HUYATID
Davao-Huyatid Agency

VALERIE U. W. DE LEON, *LUTCF*
Tan Associates

EMILIE M. BOBE
Bacolod-Bobe Agency

PHILAM LIFE PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

In the tradition of excellence, these Career Agents have distinguished themselves with exceptional First Year Commission Income for Recognition Year 2002.

STEPHANIE Y. GAW
Tan Associates

EMELITA S. ABANTO
Antonio Associates

ERIC G. NICDAO
Nicdao Associates

ELSIE G. GALUEGO
Panay-Altavas Agency

ISABELITA S. CASTOR
Antonio Associates

EDITHA C. CAPISTRANO
Bernardo Associates

FLORENTINA M. ARDIDON
Ardidon Associates

BARTOLOME R. CRUZ
Pagaduan Associates

MA. VIVIENNE L. SOLON
De Mundo Associates

ADELAIDE H. YAP
Davao Direct

CAROL F. RIVERA
Gan Associates

NONITA U. SONTILLANO
Pagadian-Tamala Agency

JESUSA R. MANASIS
Pagaduan Associates

PATRICIA W. YAM, *LUTCF*
Tongko Associates

THELMA G. SANTOS
Tarlac-Pineda Agency

FELICIDAD S. SOLIS
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

ERIKA M. RAYALA
Monte Associates

MA. ROSARIO R. E. JUANICO
Cebu-Tan Agency

RODALIZA B. SCHNEIDER
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

RODOLFO H. GO
R. Tan Associates

TERESITA S. MANALO
Antonio Associates

JAY ARNOLD C. MENES
Monte Associates

VIRGILIO V. HERNANDEZ
Antonio Associates

POTENCIANO C. CARAIG
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

MARISSA V. TAGUINOD
INV-Mata Agency

GERALDINE MARIE A. LIMPO
Melendres Associates

MILAGROS P. PINEDA
Bataan-Maturino Agency

BELLA M. ALVAREZ
Quezon-Marwanag Agency

JACINTO T. KEH
R. Tan Associates

PERLA O. ARGUELLES
Iloilo-Buenconsejo Agency

ALMA E. LLORENTE
De Mundo Associates

EDGAR M. DUMAYAS
La Trinidad-Flores Agency

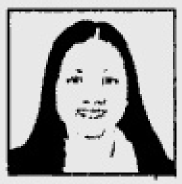
LEONOR B. SILVA
Baguio Associates

CONSOLACION C. BLANCO
Antonio Associates

LUCILA A. BASCON
Antonio Associates

GLORIA V. VILLANGCA
Pagaduan Associates

LUISITO S. LAUDICO
De Mundo Associates


MARICEL V. MAUNAHAN, *LUTCF*
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

ALICIA G. BENDERO
Tacurong-Parcon Agency

LUCILA R. OCAMPO
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

MABEL MADELEINE T. PO
Cebu-Tan Agency

MA. VICTORIA F. LIWAG
Monte Associates

ANDELYS M. CARILLO
Monte Associates

FLORA G. ARELLANO
Batangas-Comia Agency

AMELIA E. ATANACIO
Espiritu Associates

MARIA SARAH V. PREPEÑA
Bernardo Associates

MAXIMA M. MUNOZ
Baguio-Ruiz Agency

MILAGROS C. CLET, *LUTCF*
Batangas-Clet Agency

FERDINAND S. CRUZ
Mendoza Associates

ELENA R. KAMID
Zamorano Associates

MA. REMEDIOS C. ACEVEDA
Aceveda Associates

ANICIA Q. DE GUZMAN
North Luzon-Costes Agency

ADRIANA M. PACHECO
Bernardo Associates

FERNANDO F. PALCON
Zamorano Associates

ZENAIDA L. MATIAS
Bongala Associates

LEAH H. JALANDONI
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

SYLVIA O. GAGTO
Antonio Associates

PATRICIA A. SARDALLA
L. Pono Associates

PERCY M. GUZMAN
INV-Mata Agency

AIDA C. MATTI
Antonio Associates

SUSANA P. OBINIANA
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

ISIDRO T. PANTALEON
Cebu-Tan Agency

MA. THERESA E. LUCILA
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MA. LOURDES T. PANES
Panay-Altavas Agency

ELIZABETH B. JARDELEZA
Iloilo-Buenconsejo Agency

MARIA M. W. RAMOS
Melendres Associates

MA. ANTONELLA N. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

MA. TERESA V. MARALIT
Deveza Associates

CRISTY B. CALIMLIM
North Luzon-Costes Agency

JOSE ELMER C. JAMORA
Pagadian-Tamala Agency

ESMERALDA S. BELTRAN
Baguio Associates

IRENE B. VILLENA
Cavite-Medrano Agency

EDGAR C. BARTOLATA
De Mundo Associates

EVANGELINA R. REYES
De Mundo Associates

LETY L. MANGALIAG
Mangaliag Associates

BENJIE L. GONZALES
Monte Associates

MARILYN R. ROTAP
Cavite-Vargas Agency

AVELINA I. CADORNIGA
Antonio Associates

ERLINDA F. ZAFRA
Bulacan Direct

ROGELIO N. PEREYRA
Bulacan-Maturino Agency

ELENITA V. BELIGANIO
Bulacan-Maturino Agency

GENEROSO P. ZABALERIO
Zabalerio Associates

NORA M. BUENAVENTURA
Nueva-Reyes Agency

CONSUELO C. SANGALANG
INV-Mata Agency

ADELAIDA R. GAMBOA
Batangas-Comia Agency

SHERWIN U. COMIA, *LUTCF*
Batangas-Comia Agency

CONTESSA MAY G. SANTOS
Iloilo-Gonzaga Agency

BENJAMIN Y. GAN
Bongala Associates

NORA H. CRISOSTOMO
Antonio Associates

ROGELIO A. ALCANTARA
Davao-Huyatid Agency

ESTER A. ESTRELLA
Ardidon Associates

MONA LISA M. RIETA
Cavite-Medrano Agency

AMPARO C. IGNACIO
Sur Associates

NORMITA G. VENERACION
Pagaduan Associates

JESSIE C. IMPERIAL
Antonio Associates

LANI P. ASPRER
Bacolod-Pamaran Agency

DEANNA C. APOSTOL
INV-Mata Agency

DAI HIONG SHIN
Tan Associates

EDITO D. MALIGSAY
De Mundo Associates

RAMON M. CRUZ
Mendoza Associates

NORMA A. DE VENECIA
De Mundo Associates

CONCEPCION C. GUEVARRA
Nueva-Reyes Agency

MA. LETICIA G. ALLADO
Melendres Associates

CECILIA A. RUPERTO
Antonio Associates

JOCELYN M. CAPISTRANO
INV-Mata Agency

ROSITA C. ABARY
Laguna-Falague Agency

ERNESTO A. LIM
Tan Associates

MATILDE S. DIMALIWAT
Nueva-Galvez Agency

MA. LOURDES L. RIVERA, *LUTCF*
Baguio Associates

WENIFREDA L. JEREZ
Cotabato-Jerez Agency

ESTELITA P. MEJICO
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

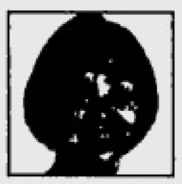
ESTHER S. SAPUNGAN
Uy Associates

AILEEN S. DE JOYA
Tongko Associates

MA. RITA N. NEPOMUCENO
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

EVANGELISTA L. MACANAS
Cotabato-Jerez Agency

IMELDA H. NG
Cebu-Tan Agency


SALLY N. KO
Tan Associates

MACARIA DR. SILANG
Baguio Associates

VALENTIN V. UY
INV-Mata Agency

ALELI C. GENIL
Batangas-Comia Agency

ARACELI A. NADURATA
Butuan-Zurita Associates

CESAR F. ENCINARES
Uy Associates

JASMIN V. BACAYO, *LUTCF*
Cebu-Baruc Agency

MERLITA L. PATULOT
Laguna-Falague Agency

ARMANDO O. ORDOÑEZ
Antonio Associates

MA. LORELLI P. FLORES
Iloilo-Buenconsejo Agency

VIRGILIO R. RADA
Pagadian-Tamala Agency

HELEN C. TAN
L. Pono Associates

ESTRELLITA U. TAN
Butuan-Udarbe Agency

MILDRED C. SENADOS
Zamboanga-Mulia Agency

EDDIE M. MAYONA
Baguio-Ruiz Agency

JOSE M. ESGUERRA, JR.
Baguio Associates

PHILAM LIFE

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

MA. ROSARIO F. LUMANLAN
Deveza Associates

CLARA D. PARAS
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

AILEEN D. ONA
Quezon-Malwanag Agency

ALEXANDER C. ARCIAGA
MM Central I Direct

METHODIO V. MAGNAYE
Capule Associates

MA. ANDREA A. DAWA
Baguio-Rulla Agency

VIRGINIA G. CORDERO
Surigao-Mendoza Agency

GEMMA G. LUZADAS
Mortel Associates

NIEVES B. SAN PEDRO
Melendres Associates

ERNESTO L. CABILLO
Batangas-Comia Agency

GRACE T. CABOTAGE
Antonio Associates

EDITH D. PINEDA
Central Luzon Direct

YANINING H. SY
Mortel Associates

AMELITA M. LACSON
Uson Associates

RHEABELLE S. MARISTELA
Laguna-Falague Agency

CESAR M. OÑATE
Antonio Associates

EDUVEGES A. FLORES
Zamboanga-Mutia Agency

JUNE R. NERY
Antonio Associates

MARCOS V. TAN
Tan Associates

ROMEO A. N. MACASAET IV
L. Ponio Associates

ROWENA C. DEMERIN
Cavite-Vares Agency

RAULEN C. BOBE
Bacolod-Bobe Agency

CLAUDIA B. FUENTES
Cebu-Tan Agency

ROMEO C. ARCIAGA
MM Central I Direct

LUCITA S. YAP
Bulacan Direct

DOROTEA D. GRIPAL
Bulacan-Maturno Agency

NARCISA D. COMAHIG
Cebu-Tan Agency

LEONILA F. SANTIAGO
Nueva-Reyes Agency

EVANGELINE C. PANUGAYAN
Tan Associates

MANUEL S. VERGEL DE DIOS
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

GERONIMO B. REYES
Batangas-Ciel Agency

EMERITA C. GULINAO
Capule Associates

MA. LUZ U. BABIA
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MELROSE M. ACALING
Panay-Atavas Agency

ROCHELLE K. A. PANGILINAN
Pampanga-Aquino Agency

MICHAEL D. BASA
North Luzon-Costes Agency

EMETERIA B. DALISAY
Bagui Associates

MA. DALISAY R. CACHERO
La Trinidad-Flores Agency

MA. VIOLETA A. BALADIANG
Panay-Atavas Agency

AURORA J. FRANCISCO
Pagaduan Associates

MA. PAZ O. SEPULVEDA
Cebu-Tan Agency

ANTHONY D. DE LEON
Antonio Associates

MA. ROSARIO T. YAP
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

ELVIRA I. ZUÑIGA
Capule Associates

EVANGELINE S. GARCIA
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

MARIE ANGELI O. SALANG
Del Mundo Associates

Mas masayang umuwi
kapag may
kinabukasang
pinaghandaan!

Nag-abroad ka upang matupad ang ilang piling pangarap tulad ng pagpapa-aral ng mga anak, pagbili ng sariling bahay at lupa at makapagpatayo ng isang negosyo.

Ngunit di mo kinakailangang maging OFW habang buhay para makamtan ang mga ito. Sa tulong ng Philamlife Overall Family Welfare Program, mas mabilis mong matutupad ang mga pangarap ninyong mag-anak.

At dahil alam mong may magandang kinabukasan kang pinaghahandaan, lalong magiging masaya ang iyong pag-uwi.

Paghandaan mo na ang inyong magandang bukas, tumawag sa (077) 773-2355.
Kung ika'y nasa Manila, maaaring tumawag sa 526-9380 to 381.

PHILAM LIFE
OVERALL FAMILY WELFARE PROGRAM

PHILAM LIFE

Securing Lives. Fulfilling Dreams.

AIG A Member of
American International Group, Inc.

Yes! I want to know more about Philamlife.
Name: ______________________
Occupation: ______________________ Age:_
RP Address: ___
RP Phone:______________Fax/Pager/Cell/E-mail:
Address Abroad: ______________________
Phone Abroad:______________________ Employer:___________

Please send this coupon to Product Marketing Department,
PHILAMLIFE INSURANCE CO., 1440 U.N. Avenue Manila or fax to 526-9382.

PHILAM LIFE PHILAM INSURANCE PHILAM CARE PHILAM PLANS PHILAM SAVINGS BANK PHILAM ASSET MANAGEMENT PHILAM PROPERTIES AIG AIG Credit Card Company Philippines Inc

Premier AGENTS CLUB

This elite club recognizes distinguished members for their superior performance in quality business, exceptional first year production and professional agency values.

They stand as vanguards, leading the field in exceptional professionalism --- such is the hallmark of premier agent of the premier Company.

PLATINUM

SHIRLEY L. CO
Tan Associates
4-year consecutive

CORAZON KI ANG
Tan Associates
4-year consecutive

CHAN SIU ENG
Tan Associates

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
De Mundo Associates

PETRONILA B. SADARAN
Uson Associates

MA. LUZ S. VENCIO
De Mundo Associates

VALERIE U. WONG DE LEON, *LUTCF*
Tan Associates

ZENAIDA A. PALMES
De Mundo Associates

LILY S. GO
Tan Associates

GOLD

JACINTA Y. PHOA
Tan Associates

NG CHO LIAN
Tan Associates

LETICIA G.O. ANG
Tan Associates

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Esprit Associates

MA. ELENA G. ASTURIAS
Del Mundo Associates

MA. EDITHA S. PEÑAFLOR
Antonio Associates

NILDA C. UY
De Mundo Associates

ANGEL M. BAYLON
Avi-Mata Agency

ANTONINA S. SOLOMON
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

FLORENTINA M. ARDIDON
Ardidon Associates

MA. THERESA L. SOLON, *LUTCF*
Del Mundo Associates

PRESCILLA L. RIVERO
De Mundo Associates

YOLANDA A. MORTEL, *LUTCF*
Mortel Associates

JEANETTE C. FABICO
Tan Associates

ELSIE G. GALUEGO
[illegible] Agency

ERIC G. NICDAO
Nicdao Associates

THERESITAS N. PANOPIO
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MA. FATIMA R. RODRIGUEZ
Central Luzon Direct

LEONOR B. SILVA
Baguio Associates

MA. VIVIENNE L. SOLON
Del Mundo Associates

ADELAIDE H. YAP
Davao Direct

SILVER

LOURDES V. GLORIA, *LUTCF*
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

VENECIA C. LIM
Tan Associates

SYLVIA O. GAGTO
Antonio Associates

BENJAMIN Y. GAN
[illegible] Associates

MA. THERESA E. LUCILA
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

BELLA M. ALVAREZ
[illegible] Agency

LUCILA R. OCAMPO
[illegible] Agency

AMELIA E. ATANACIO
Esprit Associates

EMELITA S. ABANTO
Antonio Associates

MA. VICTORIA F. LIWAG
Mortel Associates

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

ISABELITA S. CASTOR
Antonio Associates

CANDIDATES TO THE 2003 MDRT

The Million Dollar Round Table, founded in 1927, is a forum designed to foster the highest standards of professional approach to selling life insurance and servicing policyholders.

Without a doubt, the MDRT shines out as the most prestigious association of life insurance professionals worldwide.

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Honor Roll & Qualifying Member
9-Time Top of the Table

REYNOLD A. GAN*
Top of the Table

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Court of the Table

LILY T. SY CHUA
Court of the Table

THERESITAS N. PANOPIO
Court of the Table

CORAZON KI ANG
Honor Roll & Qualifying Member

RODOLFO M. MALLARI
Qualifying & Life Member

JACINTA Y. PHOA
Qualifying & Life Member

YOLANDA A. MORTEL, *LUTCF*
Qualifying & Life Member

MA. ELENA G. ASTURIAS
Qualifying & Life Member

VALERIE U. W. DE LEON, *LUTCF*
Qualifying Member

PATRICIA W. YAM, *LUTCF*
Qualifying Member

SHIRLEY L. CO
Qualifying Member

ANTONINA S. SOLOMON
Qualifying Member

ZENAIDA A. PALMES
Qualifying Member

TERESITA R. CABARRUBIA
Qualifying Member

NILDA C. UY
Qualifying Member

LUCILA H. KIERULF
Qualifying Member

LETICIA G.O. ANG
Qualifying Member

LOURDES E. BERNARDO
Qualifying Member

CHAN SIU ENG
Qualifying Member

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Qualifying Member

MA. EDITHA S. PEÑAFLOR
Qualifying Member

MA. THERESA E. LUCILA
Qualifying Member

MA. THERESA L. SOLON, *LUTCF*
Qualifying Member

PETRONILA B. SADARAN
Qualifying Member

LOURDES V. GLORIA, *LUTCF*
Qualifying Member

NG CHO LIAN
Qualifying Member

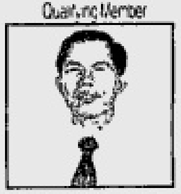
ANUNCIACION C. BIROG
Qualifying Member

FLORENTINA M. ARDIDON
Qualifying Member

MA. LUZ S. VENCIO
Qualifying Member

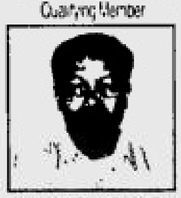
MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
Qualifying Member

LELI T. CHENG
Qualifying Member


TOMAS R. ESCAREZ
Qualifying Member

RONALD JORGE S. JIMENEZ
Qualifying Member

MA. FATIMA R. RODRIGUEZ
Qualifying Member


BARTOLOME R. CRUZ
Qualifying Member

EDITHA C. CAPISTRANO
Qualifying Member

ISABELITA S. CASTOR
Qualifying Member

PRESCILLA L. RIVERO
Qualifying Member

MA. VIVIENNE L. SOLON
Qualifying Member

JEANETTE C. FABICO
Qualifying Member

GERALDINE MARIE A. LIMPO
Qualifying Member

MARISSA V. TAGUINOD
Qualifying Member

LILY S. GO
Qualifying Member

TAMIE GAYLE G. CUASO*

ESTELA C. BELEN
Qualifying Member

ANTONIETTA Q. DEL MUNDO, *FLMI*
Qualifying Member

ERIKA M. RAYALA
Qualifying Member

JULIE S. GO*

EUGENE HANS W. KHOO*

FELICIDAD S. SOLIS*

MILAGROS I. GATDULA
Qualifying Member

ANICIA Q. DE GUZMAN*

MA. ROSARIO R. E. JUANICO
Qualifying Member

ANGEL M. BAYLON
Qualifying Member

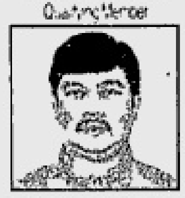
THELMA G. SANTOS
Qualifying Member

ERIC G. NICDAO
Qualifying Member

VIRGINIA T. EUGENIO
Qualifying Member

CONCHITA K. CASTILLO
Qualifying Member

ELSIE G. GALUEGO*


REMIGIO G. PEREZ
Qualifying Member

LUISITO S. LAUDICO*

STEPHANIE Y. GAW
Qualifying Member

ELAINE SHEILA P. CUNA*

LUZVIMINDA M. BERNARDO
Qualifying Member

ANGELICA C. ZABALA*

ADELAIDE H. YAP
Qualifying Member

LEONOR B. SILVA
Qualifying Member

MARIA MIGNON W. RAMOS
Qualifying Member

Honor Roll - 15 years MDRT Qualifier
Qualifying and Life Member - at least 10 consecutive years MDRT Qualifier

** Candidate for 2003 Qualifying Member*

GERALDINE MARIE A. LIMPO
[illegible] Associates

LUCILA H. KIERULF
De Mundo Associates

RODOLFO H. GO
R. Tan Associates

JACINTO T. KEH
R. Tan Associates

IMELDA M. OPPUS
Nudas Associates

ESMERALDA S. BELTRAN
Baguio Associates

BARTOLOME R. CRUZ
Pagadian Associates

PATRICIA A. SARDALLA
[illegible] Associates

ANDELYS M. CARILLO
[illegible]

FLORA G. ARELLANO
[illegible] Agency

ALICIA G. BENDERO
Tacurong-Parcon Agency

AVELINA I. CADORNIGA
Antonio Associates

CESAR F. ENCINARES
Dy Associates

VIRGILIO V. HERNANDEZ
Antonio Associates

LUISITO S. LAUDICO
De Mundo Associates

MARICEL V. MAUNAHAN, *LUTCF*
Hiza-Maunahan Agency

MA. SARAH V. PREPEÑA
Bumaru Associates

NONITA U. SONTILLANO
Pagadian-Tamaa Agency

MARISSA V. TAGUINOD
Avi-Mata Agency

IRENE B. VILLENA
[illegible] Agency

IQA
INTERNATIONAL QUALITY AWARD

The mark of a career underwriter is exemplified by this worldwide symbol of excellence. Membership to this club is measured by persistency --- the number of clients who keep their policies in-force for many years. Persistent business is the seal of a true professional.

NG CHO LIAN
26 Years

JACINTA Y. PHOA
24 Years

SHIRLEY L. CO
22 Years

CHAN SIU ENG
19 Years

CORAZON KI ANG
17 Years

ESTRELLITA U. TAN
9 Years

ROSARIO J. VALENCIA
4 Years

MA. LETICIA G. ALLADO
3 Years

ROMEO A. N. MACASAET IV
3 Years

ANTONINA S. SOLOMON
3 Years

GERALDINE MARIE A. LIMPO
2 Years

LUCILA R. OCAMPO
2 Years

FLORA G. ARELLANO
2 Years

VIRGINIA G. CORDERO
1 Year

MA. VIVIENNE L. SOLON
1 Year

PETRONILA B. SADARAN
1 Year

SUSANA M. VILLAFUERTE
1 Year

OFELIA J. VILLANUEVA
1 Year

ROSALINDA L. PEREIRA
1 Year

ZENAIDA A. PALMES
1 Year

MA. EDITHA S. PEÑAFLOR
1 Year

FLORA O. CADIENTE
1 Year

MARISSA V. TAGUINOD
1 Year

BENJAMIN Y. GAN
1 Year

MICHAEL Z. FERNANDEZ
1 Year

VALERIE U. W. DE LEON, *LUTCF*
1 Year

MA. LORELLI P. FLORES
1 Year

MARICAR S. MENDOZA
1 Year

MA. ELENA G. ASTURIAS
1 Year

ROBERTO M. BUSCAR
1 Year

THERESITAS N. PANOPIO
1 Year

ROLANDO O. DAMASO
1 Year

ROSALINA C. ESCAÑO
1 Year

MA. THERESA J. GALVEZ
1 Year

PHILAM LIFE
accident & health

TOP PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

LEMA P. TIBURCIO
Espiritu Associates

AWARD OF HONOR

TERESITA A. GOROSPE
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

WENCESLAO S. GUICO
Batangas-Margaig Agency

CARMELA P. SABARILLO
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

PHILAM LIFE
GROUP & CREDIT
INSURANCE DIVISION

GROUP MASTERS AWARD

ADRIAN V. OCAMPO
Ocampo Associates

CREDIT LIFE LEGACY AWARD

EDITH J. PRADO
Davao-Inuyabo Agency

FUND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

FUTUREFUND CONTRIBUTOR

Agency Manager Category

REYNALDO N. MORTEL
Mortel Associates

Unit Manager Category

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

LOLITA C. TANLO
Tanlo Associates

Agent Category

ANDELYS M. CARILLO
Mortel Associates

VICTORIA G. SANTIAGO
Mortel Associates

LILY T. SY CHUA
Tanlo Associates

SETTLEMENT OPTION AWARD

SEGUNDINA O. TAN
Tan Associates

PHILAM LIFE
PERSONAL LINES

AUTO PROTECTOR AWARD

ROMEO I. DEL ROSARIO
Mendoza Associates

FIRE FIGHTER AWARD

ROMEO I. DEL ROSARIO
Mendoza Associates

PHILAM LIFE
FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

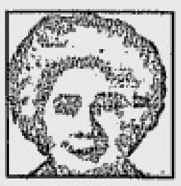
A five-time member of the Chairman's Board earns the rank and privilege to be elevated to Philamlife's highest honor club.

This club extols the memory of Philamlife's Founder and First President, Earl Caroll. These are the true professionals who represent excellence and commitment.

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

SHIRLEY L. CO
Tan Associates

MA. ELENA G. ASTURIAS
Del Mundo Associates


LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Del Mundo Associates

ZENAIDA A. PALMES
Del Mundo Associates

RODOLFO M. MALLARI
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

CORAZON KI ANG
Tan Associates

NG CHO LIAN
Tan Associates

CHAN SIU ENG
Tan Associates

LETICIA G.O. ANG
Tan Associates

YOLANDA A. MORTEL, *LUTCF*
Mortel Associates

JACINTA Y. PHOA
Tan Associates

NILDA C. UY
Del Mundo Associates

MA. THERESA L. SOLON, *LUTCF*
Del Mundo Associates

ANTONINA S. SOLOMON
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

LUCILA H. KIERULF
Del Mundo Associates

GUEI TAY GI
Tan Associates

VENECIA C. LIM
Tan Associates

IMELDA M. OPPUS
Nicdao Associates

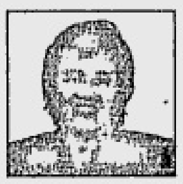
SALUD P. CAPILI
Zamorano Associates

PHILAM LIFE
CHAIRMAN'S BOARD

This exclusive honor club, dedicated to Philamlife's Chairman, Maurice R. Greenberg, belongs to the top 15% of Philamlife's outstanding Career Agents.

They are the true pacesetters of the agency force who exemplify growth and strength, characteristics of intensely dedicated men and women.

REYNOLD A. GAN
Gan Associates


LILY T. SY CHUA
Tanlo Associates

PETRONILA B. SADARAN
Luson Associates

LELI T. CHENG
Yu Associates

MA. LUZ S. VENCIO
Del Mundo Associates

VALERIE U. W. DE LEON, *LUTCF*
Tan Associates

LILY S. GO
Tan Associates

ESTELA C. BELEN
Laguna-Faelgue Agency

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Espiritu Associates

RONALD J. S. JIMENEZ
Fagaduan Associates

MA. ANTONIETTA Q. DEL MUNDO
Del Mundo Associates

LOURDES E. BERNARDO
Bernardo Associates

THERESITAS N. PANOPIO
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

TERESITA R. CABARRUBIA
Mortel Associates

LOURDES V. GLORIA, *LUTCF*
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MA. FATIMA R. RODRIGUEZ
Central Luzon Direct

MA. EDITHA S. PEÑAFLOR
Antonio Associates

JEANETTE C. FABICO
Tan Associates

TOMAS R. ESCAREZ
Batangas-Ciet Agency

LUZVIMINDA M. BERNARDO
Nueva-Reyes Agency

CONCHITA K. CASTILLO
INV-Mata Agency

TAMIE GAYLE G. CUASO
Sy-Cuaso Associates

VIRGINIA T. EUGENIO
INV-Mata Agency

MILAGROS I. GATDULA
Laguna-Faelgue Agency

EUGENE HANS W. KHOO
Sy-Cuaso Associates

PRESCILLA L. RIVERO
Del Mundo Associates

ANGEL M. BAYLON
INV-Mata Agency

JULIE S. GO
Sy-Cuaso Associates

ANUNCIACION C. BIROG
Del Mundo Associates

CECILIA S. LUNA
Dy Associates

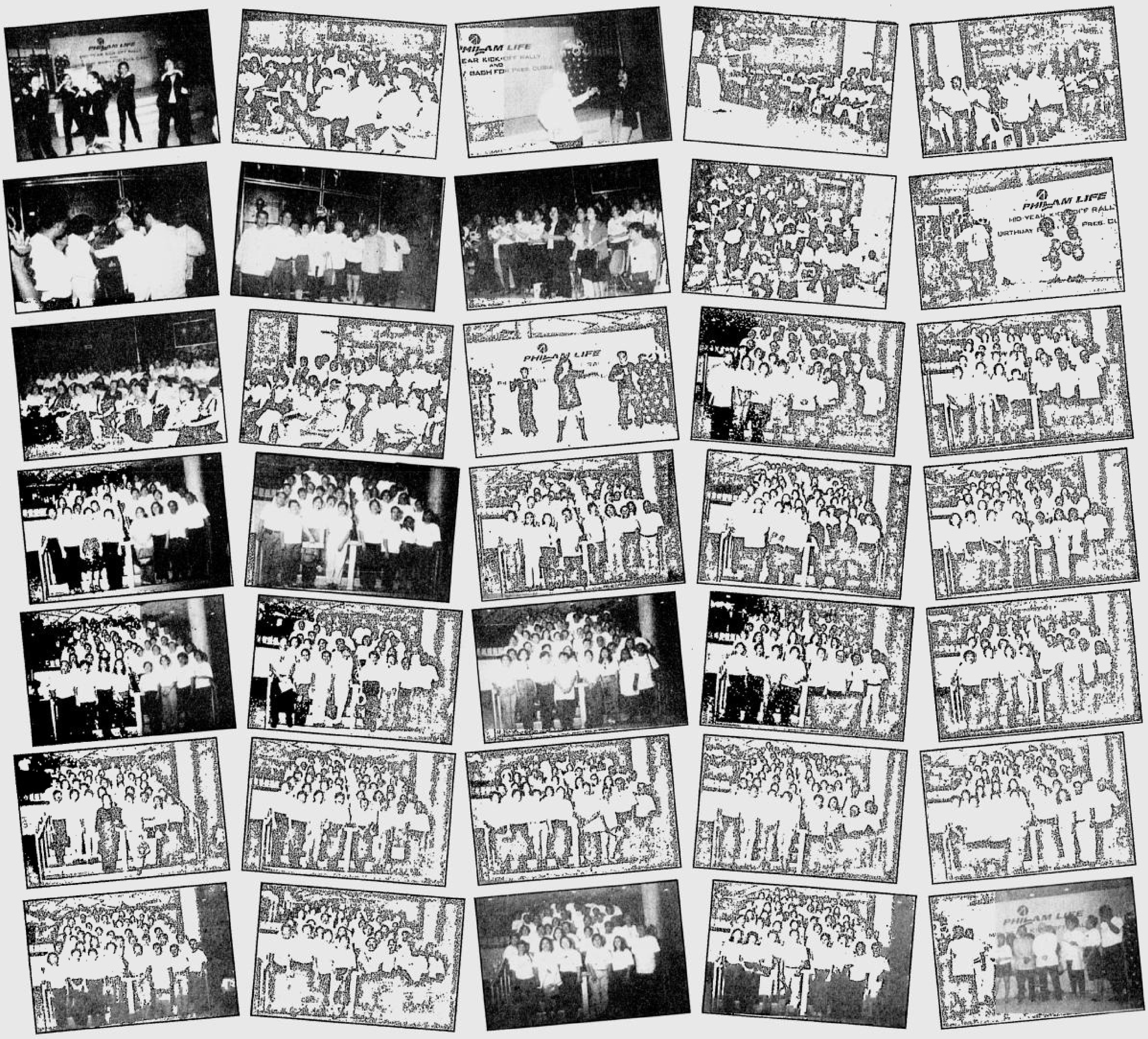
PHILAM WARS

BEYOND LIMITS

ATTACK OF THE PRODUCING AGENTS

The Philam Wars was envisioned as a "little" initiative that had a "big" and "enduring" impact, as each of our colleagues had gone Beyond their Limits ending fiscal year 2002 on a high note. With everyone motivating and encouraging each other towards higher performance levels, a new company record was achieved. This feat could not have been possible without the hard work of our agency force and the trust of our clients.

Our associates from all over Metro Manila and the nearby provinces (Central and South Luzon) were present during the event which saw more than a thousand people taking part in the fun and festivities of the Philam Wars celebration.



PHILAM LIFE
A&H
Accident & Health

The Accident & Health department congratulates the Philam Wars qualifiers. We are one with you in securing the lives of our countrymen!

PHILAM LIFE
TLC

www.ephilam.com
PHILAM LIFE
Securing Lives. Fulfilling Dreams.

AIG A Member of American International Group, Inc.

For more inquiries, please talk to your Philamlife advisor, financial planner or call 528-2003.

TOUGH TIMES NEVER LAST; TOP AGENTS DO!

At 30, we are still running the distance...

Message from
JOSE L. CUISIA, JR.
President & CEO
Philamlife & General
Insurance Co.

PHILAM LIFE

ISAGANI ANTONIO ASSOCIATES

Vision and sales excellence best characterize Philamlife's premier agency—the Antonio Associates. Marking its 30th year in the life insurance business, the Antonio Associates boasts of its indisputable leadership in Philamlife, having kept the number one agency position in Philamlife since 1993. With over 500 highly trained and competent agents and agency leaders, the agency has posted growth consecutively for the past 30 years.

The vision of becoming a mega-agency has kept the Antonio Associates determined to rise above challenges and set milestone after milestone. In 2002, the agency was awarded the President's Cup for its record-breaking sales production. It was also in the same year that the agency further expanded its mall operations, branching out to the provincial area of Legazpi City, Albay. Despite the tough times, the Antonio Associates continue to deliver superior performance.

Congratulations to the Antonio Associates for the 30 years of dedicated service in Philamlife. May you continue to inspire other Philamlifers as you manifest strong teamwork, consistent growth and sales excellence in the years to come.

Senior Agency Manager
JOSE ISAGANI ANTONIO
- *National Agency Manager of the Year*
- *Special Achievement Awardee*

ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR

EDITHA PENAFLOR
Premier Agent Gold
- *MDRT Qualifier*
- *IQA Qualifier*
- *World Class Producer*
- *Annual Premium Champion*

WORLD CLASS PRODUCERS OF THE YEAR

ZENAIDA ANTONIO
MDRT Qualifier
Premier Agent - Silver
Mgr of the Year

ISABELITA CASTOR
MDRT Qualifier
Premier Agent - Silver

EDITHA PENAFLOR
MDRT Qualifier
Premier Agent - Gold
IQA Qualifier

EMELITA ABANTO
Premier Agent - Silver

SYLVIA GAGTO
Premier Agent - Silver

AVELINA CADORNIGA
Premier Agent -Silver

VIRGILIO HERNANDEZ
Premier Agent - Silver

UNIT MANAGERS OF THE YEAR

UM ZENAIDA ANTONIO

UM EDUARDO FORDAN

UM ORLANDO ABANTO

UM ROGELIO CRISOSTOMO

UM ADELAIDA HERNANDEZ

UM ROBERTO MENDOZA

UM NOEMI POBLADOR

IQA QUALIFIERS

EDITHA PENAFLOR

OFELIA VILLANUEVA

ROLANDO DAMASO

ROOKIE AGENTS OF THE YEAR

ANTHONY DE LEON

SONIA ESCASURA

RESTITUTO MAPALO

SARAH JANE URRIQUIA

IMELDA DE LOS SANTOS

TOP PRODUCERS OF THE YEAR

TERESITA MANALO

LUCILA BASCON

NORA CRISOSTOMO

AIDA MATTI

JUNE NERY

JESUS IMPERIAL

CECILIA RUPERTO

ARMANDO ORDONEZ

CESAR ONATE

CONSOLACION BLANCO

CECILIA BARNUEVO

EVELYN MENDOZA

GLENN SALDUA

CONCEPCION AQUINO

FLORA PACAYRA

GRACE CABOTAGE

IGNACIO AQUINO

EDITHA CARINO

GRACE GANABAN

VIRGINIA SANTOS

AWARDEES FROM ANTONIO FAMILY
(Bernardo & Roque Associates)

AM ROBERTO BERNARDO
President's Cabinet

UM CRISTINA MENDOZA
President's Cabinet

UM ANGEL BERNABE
President's Cabinet

LOURDES BERNARDO
MDRT
PCA

EDITHA CAPISTRANO
MDRT
PCA

SARAH PREPENA
Premier-Silver
PCA

ADRIANA PACHECO
PCA

AM LEONIDA ROQUE
President's Cabinet

A lucrative, rewarding career does not have to take you away from your family

Discover the insurance selling career and be one of our successful associates who earn as much as several millions of pesos a year! Yes, this satisfying, lifetime career offers financial possibilities for the productive persons.

With us at Philamlife - Antonio Associates, you don't have to go far. You can conduct your business right inside your community, close to your family.

Call us now, reserve a seat in our weekly seminars.

ISAGANI ANTONIO ASSOCIATES - PHILAMLIFE

The Pioneer in Insurance Mall Site Marketing in the Philippines

Antonio Associates Head Office
2/F, DAO I Bldg., 189 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 892-8968 & 892-8970 Email: iaa@netasia.net Visit us at our website: www.iantonioassociates.com

- Antonio Associates
  SM City Manila, 5th Level
- Antonio Associates
  SM Southmall, Lower G/F
- Antonio Associates
  SM City Bacoor, 3rd Level
- Antonio Associates
  Festival Mall, 1st Level
- Antonio Associates
  San Pedro, Laguna
- Antonio Associates
  Pacific Mall, Legazpi City

This is a paid advertisement

30 YEARS
OF DEDICATION, ADVOCACY AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF DEL MUNDO ASSOCIATES

Ms. Lulu del Mundo

MULTIAWARDED Lulu del Mundo with daughter Anna and Philamlife's executives: CEO and President Jose L. Cuisia. Jr., EVP for Sales and Marketing Josefino R. Sto. Domingo & Philam Plans President Jesus G. Hofileña.

ONE OF PHILAMLIFE'S TOP AGENCIES

When Lourdes "Lulu" M. Del Mundo was offered by former Philamlife President Rodrigo Delos Reyes to become an agency manager, she did not have to think twice. However, she knew at that moment she was headed for a huge responsibility of being Philamlife's first lady agency manager in a male-dominated industry.

This seemingly insurmountable challenge, however, opened doors for female agents to become major players in the life insurance industry. It also paved the way to what was to become the **2nd largest agency** in Philamlife-the L.M. Del Mundo Associates.

From humble beginnings, Lulu has trailblazed a difficult and exacting climb to success and is today the most admired and awarded lady agency manager in Philamlife.

For the past 30 years, Del Mundo Associates has remained at the forefront of growth and progress. As Philamlife expanded to what is now known as the Philam Group of Companies, Lulu and her agents have in many occasions pioneered marketing strategies and sales methods for various financial products. Whether in health care, pre-need, non-life insurance, mutual funds and their core business, life insurance, there would always be a Del Mundo professional agent capable of providing first-rate service.

Throughout the years, Del Mundo Associates has shown exemplary performance not only in life insurance, but also in marketing Philam's other financial products and services. This affirms the kind of commitment they have in giving support to all product and service innovations that Philamlife has launched, and the passion of the agency for delivering the most timely and comprehensive financial solutions to its clients.

Partnering with Management

The unwavering record of success of Del Mundo Associates would not have been possible without the unrelenting support of Philamlife Management, which Lulu has complete confidence it.

Mgr. Lulu del Mundo believes that it is only with true partnership with Philamlife that her agency has lasted for 30 years, the same reason why they will continue working as one strong force well into the future.

Behind the success of Del Mundo Associates is its core of ever-reliable sales agents. For the year 2002, the agency had the most number of MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE members in Philamlife. It also boasts of having the most number of Certified Financial Planners in the company.

A promoter of continuing education and learning, Mgr. Del Mundo has always advocated that one must undergo a precise academic and skills development program to be completely prepared for a full-time sales career in Philamlife. She also believes that in an ever-changing world of market demands and needs, only the most competent, creative and adaptive agent can succeed.

CERTIFIED PHILAMLIFE FINANCIAL PLANNERS: (Back row L-R) Ma. Vivienne Solon, Zenaida Palmes, Fe De Dios, Ma. Antonietta del Mundo, Ma. Elena Asturias, Luisito Laudico, Antonio Santana (Front row L-R) Rebecca Abrilla, Susana Turingan, Prescilla Rivero, Ma. Luz Vencio, Alma Llorente, Edgar Bartolata (Not in photo) Nanette Mendoza

The Client is First

To put clients' interests first has always been the guiding principle of her successful agents. Through continuous training and education, they are always updated on better ways and means of providing professional financial planning services to their clients. For most of them, it is only by optimizing their potential that they can become more effective financial advisers.

Del Mundo Associates' celebration of its 30 years of existence is a great feat in itself. But to have emerged as the 2nd largest agency in Philamlife and to have held that distinction for more than a decade now is an even more formidable achievement. Therefore, the continuing challenge now is still to remain on top in all the coming years.

*PREMIER AGENTS CLUB MEMBERS: **Platinum Category:** Lourdes del Mundo, Ma. Luz Vencio & Zenaida Palmes **Gold Category:** Ma. Elena Asturias, Prescilla Rivero, Ma. Vivienne Solon, Ma. Theresa Solon & Nilda Uy, **Silver Category:** Lucila Kierulf, Luisito Laudico*

MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE MEMBERS- (Back row L-R) Nilda Uy, Ma. Luz Vencio, Anunciacion Birog, Ma. Antonietta del Mundo, Lourdes del Mundo (Court of the Table) Ma. Elena Asturias (Life & Qualifying Member), Luisito Laudico (Front row L-R) Ma. Vivienne Solon, Prescilla Rivero, Zenaida Palmes, Lucila Kierulf, Ma. Theresa Solon

NATIONAL AWARDEES: (Standing L-R) Nilda Uy, Ma. Vivienne Solon, Alma Llorente, Evangeline Reyes, Marie Angeli Salang, Edgar Bartolata, Luisito Laudico, Edito Maligsay, Norma de Venecia, Lucila Kierulf, Ma. Theresa Solon (Seated L-R) Anunciacion Birog, Prescilla Rivero, Ma. Elena Asturias, Zenaida Palmes, Ma. Luz Vencio, Ma. Antonietta del Mundo

ROOKIE & TAMARAW AWARDEES: (Standing L-R) Josette Revesencio, Loida Cabiara, Elena Licaylicay, Leopoldo Llorente, Lina Buenviaje. Sarah delos Reyes, Belen Quiogue, (Seated L-R) Felicidad Dinlasan, Carmencita Orobia, Noemi del Rosario, Eden Jalosjos

Winning teams have great leaders

THE AGENCY LEADERS: (Standing L-R) Lucila Kierulf, Evelyn Tiason, Belen Quiogue, Leopoldo Llorente, Ernesta Ignacio, Norma Magpantay, Nilda Uy, Zenaida Palmes, Narciso Solon, Fe de Dios (Seated L-R) Nelia Laudico, Lourdes del Mundo, Ma. Elena Asturias

Fortunately for Mgr. Del Mundo, she has 12 Unit Managers who navigate and lead the agency to greater accomplishments.

Her committed core of Unit Managers has exhibited their passion for excellence by stirring the growth and unparalleled expansion of Del Mundo Associates. From a small agency 30 years ago, they currently have close to 300 licensed agents in three offices; in Greenhills, Rivergate Commercial Complex, Mango Ave., Cebu City, and their most recently established office at the Antel Global Corporate Center, Ortigas Center.

For year 2002, the agency leaders produced 2 sectoral awardees, 8 national awardees (including Mgr. Del Mundo) and 5 awardees of the Career Development Award of the General Agents and Managers Association (GAMA) International.

The accomplishments of these agency leaders have created an atmosphere of success and excellence in the agency. Several months last year saw Del Mundo Associates register record-breaking performances of its agents and units thus enabling the agency to set a new all-time production record in August.

Thus, for as long as Lulu and her leaders create the right environment of success and passion for the work they do, then Del Mundo Associates is certain to remain at the forefront of Philamlife for another 30 years and beyond.

Summing up her remarkable performance throughout her many years in Philamlife, Senior Agency Manager Lourdes del Mundo had this to say:

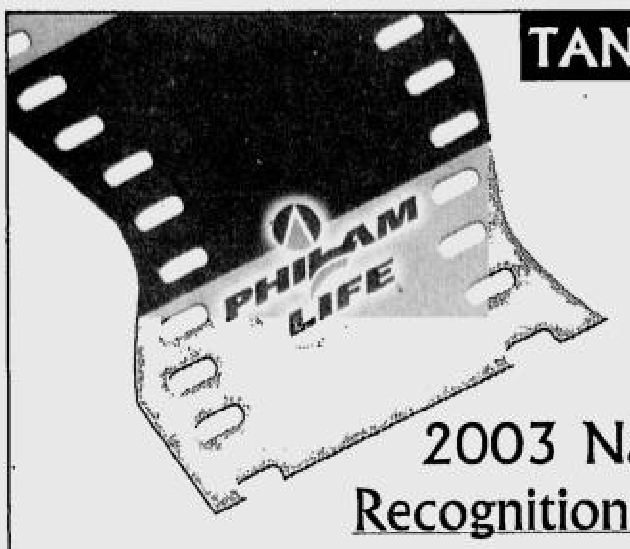
" My work has always been a personal advocacy. Success is not hard to come by if you have the highest belief in the importance of your profession. Life insurance selling then and total financial planning today continue to make a difference in the lives of the people and families we serve. This is why I feel my work is nothing less than a sacred and selfless mission. It will continue to be my advocacy for the rest of my life."

Learn more about our great team:

Del Mundo
Associates
Tel: 721-2394, 722-6367
Ground Floor, Alcco Building, Ortigas Avenue,
San Juan, Metro Manila

This is a paid advertisement

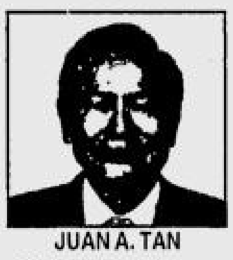
TAN Associates



2003 National Recognition Program

Philamlife's premier Filipino-Chinese agency broke all barriers in fiscal year 2003 by posting a growth of 24% growing over its previous year's exceptional accomplishment. Without a doubt, another oustanding performance from the agency that is synonymous to Quality - business and people.

Philamlife's benchmark in persistency undoubtedbly.


JUAN A. TAN
Senior Agency Manager

PHILAM LIFE FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

A five-time member of the Chairman's Board earns the rank and privilege to be elevated to Philamlife's highest honor club.This club extols the memory the memory of Philamlife's founder and President, Earl Carroll. These are the true professionals who represent excellence and commitment.

SHIRLEY L. CO

CORAZON KI ANG

NG CHO LIAN

CHAN SIU ENG

LETICIA G O ANG

JACINTA Y. PHOA

GUEI TAY GI

VENECIA C. LIM

PHILAM LIFE CHAIRMAN'S BOARD

This exclusive honor club dedicated to Philamlife's Chairman Maurice R. Greenberg belongs to the top 15% of Philamlife's top Career Agents. The are the true pacesetters of the agency force who exemplify growth and strength, characeteristics of intensely dedicated men and women.

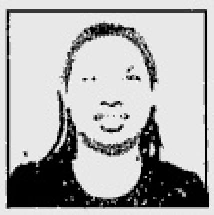
VALERIE U. WONG DE LEON, LUTCF

LILY S. GO

JEANETTE C. FABICO

PHILAM LIFE PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

In the tradition of excellence, these Career Agents have distinguished themselves with exceptional First Year Commission Income for Recognition Year 2002.


STEPHANIE Y. GAW

ERNESTO A. LIM

DAI HIONG SHIN

MARCOS V. TAN

EVANGELINE C. PANUGAYAN

SALLY N. KO

CHAIRMAN'S CABINET

Dedicated to Philamlife's Chairman Maurice R. Greenberg this elite group belongs to the top 15% of Philamlife's top Agency Leaders. The ideal mentors indeed.

AGENCY CATEGORY

JUAN A. TAN

DIRECT UNIT CATEGORY

SEGUNDINA O. TAN

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

In the tradition of excellence, these Agency Leaders have distinguished themselves with exceptional First Year Commission Income for Recognition Year 2000.

CARINA G. LU

LETICIA G O ANG

TERESITA G. MONTEVERDE, LUTCF

LIM SU CHAN

VALERIE U. WONG DE LEON, LUTCF

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT Awards

Conferred to the pacesetters of the company who have managed to distinguish themselves and have achieved the honor being Philamlife's most productive for Recognition Year 2003.

SEGUNDINA O. TAN
TOP Manila
Unit Manager Category

JUAN A. TAN
First Runner Up Manila
Agency Manager Category

2003 Qualifiers to the Million Dollar Round Table

The Million Dollar Round Table, founded in 1927, is a forum designed to foster the highest standards of professional approach to selling life insurance and servicing policyholders.

These are the men and women who have a personal commitment...a dedication to service. Without a doubt, the MDRT shines out as the most prestigious association of life insurance professionals worldwide.

CORAZON KI ANG
Honor Roll
Life and Qualifying Member

JACINTA Y. PHOA
Life and Qualifying Member
13 years

VALERIE U. WONG DE LEON, LUTCF
Qualifying Member
7 years

SHIRLEY L. CO
Qualifying Member
6 years

LETICIA G.O. ANG
Qualifying Member
5 years

CHAN SIU ENG
Qualifying Member
4 years

NG CHO LIAN
Qualifying Member
3 years

JEANETTE C. FABICO
Qualifying Member
2 years

LILY S. GO
*Candidate for 2003
Qualifying Member

STEPHANIE Y. GAW
*Candidate for 2003
Qualifying Member

Premier AGENTS CLUB

This elite club recognizes distinguished members for their superior performance in quality business, exceptional first year production and professional agency values.

They stand as vanguards, leading the field in exceptional professionalism - such is the hallmark of the premier agent of the premier company.

PLATINUM

SHIRLEY L. CO

CORAZON KI ANG

CHAN SIU ENG

VALERIE U. WONG DE LEON, LUTCF

LILY S. GO

GOLD

JACINTA Y. PHOA

NG CHO LIAN

LETICIA G.O. ANG

JEANETTE C. FABICO

SILVER

VENECIA C. LIM

IQA INTERNATIONAL QUALITY AWARD

The mark of a career underwriter is exemplified by this worldwide symbol of excellence. Membership to this club is measured by persistency - the number of clients who keep their policies in-force for many years.

NG CHO LIAN
26th years

Now on his 26th year as a consecutive International Quality Awardee, Mr. Ng enjoys the distinction of having the longest number of years conferred, unmatched anywhere in the life insurance industry of the Philippines.

JACINTA Y. PHOA
24th year

SHIRLEY L. CO
22nd year

CHAN SIU ENG
19th year

CORAZON KI ANG
17th year

VALERIE U. WONG DE LEON, LUTCF
2nd year

BEVERLYN Y. NG

CORAZON KI ANG

FUND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

SEGUNDINA O. TAN
Settlement Option Award - Unit Category

The TAN Associates gave birth to a new agency, the CK Ang Associates, truly the mark of excellence, fulfilling its role of building a well trained and customer oriented agency force.

CORAZON KI ANG

Congratulations!

SECTORAL AWARDEES

Tamaraw
Alicia S. Aquilino
Lorenz Anthony Y. How
John Arthur O. Tan
Conchita L. Ty
Pacita C. Niu

Rookie
Lucila D. Bornalo
Karen G. Go
Debbie S. Koo
Jeannie Beth Y. Pin
Cynthia A. Raspado
Jenny Y. Tan
Benita H. Yap
Rose T. Yap
Pacita C. Niu

TAN ASSOCIATES SUITE 701, ENTERPRISE BUILDING, 524 QUINTIN PAREDES ST. BINONDO, MANILA. / 247-4888 (TRUNKLINE) / 242-4809 (FAX)

This is a paid advertisement

Give your child the edge with Philamlife's 3-in-1 education plan: Scholar Gold Advantage

THE gift of education is one of the most precious legacies parents can give their children. A good education can pave the way for a child to realize his potential, thus serving as a springboard for him to achieve his dreams.

A good number of Filipinos have already taken steps to ensure the education of their children by way of getting an education plan like Philamlife's Scholar Gold plan, one of the best-selling insurance products in the market.

For those parents who are still undecided about which plan to get for their children, Philamlife introduces a new education product that provides unrivalled coverage at a reasonable price—Scholar Gold Advantage.

Scholar Gold Advantage is a comprehensive education plan with increasing benefits that can cover a child's essential expenses and other related expenses that may arise once he enters college. It likewise provides insurance coverage until the child reaches age 21.

When the child finishes college, he stands to receive a substantial cash gift and enjoy free insurance coverage for the next two years.

And, since many parents consider seeing their child receive a diploma as one of life's crowning moments, Scholar Gold Advantage also provides comprehensive accident coverage for the parent, to help ensure that he will be around to see his child graduate. This coverage is above and beyond the education and insurance benefits for the child.

One of the unique components of the coverage for the parent is the contingent education benefit, which will take care of the child's elementary and high school education in case the parent dies or becomes permanently disabled before the child reaches college.

Another is waiver of premium, which waives the need for all future premium payments in the event of the death of the parent or if he suffers permanent and total disability.

For example, if a parent of a child who is insured with Scholar Gold Advantage dies or becomes permanently disabled, the contingent education benefit can provide for the child's elementary and high school education. When the child finishes high school, the scheduled college education benefits will commence.

Scholar Gold Advantage also offers a comprehensive accident coverage worth P750,000 for the parent, and a daily hospital income benefit should the parent become hospitalized due to sickness or injury.

Scholar Gold Advantage has "quick-pay" and "economy" payment schemes to make it more affordable for different budgets.

Education. Protection. Health. No other educational plan in the market today provides these unique "3-in-1" protection benefits.

The New Scholar Gold is part of PhilamLife's "Total Life Care (TLC) Program" which aims to provide its policyholders with comprehensive life, accident and health protection.

For more information about Scholar Gold Advantage, please call 528-2000 or visit www.ephilam.com

Philamlife is the largest and most diversified insurance company in the Philippines and the undisputed market leader for over half a century. It offers the most comprehensive range of life and general insurance products and diversified financial services. Philamlife has more than a million individual and group policyholders, and maintains the most extensive network of offices and sales agencies nationwide. Philamlife is a member company of American International Group, Inc. (AIG).

PHILAM LIFE

Scholar Gold *Advantage*

Philamlife unveils new accident insurance products

We all know that accidents can happen anytime and anywhere. The commonly held belief, however, is that accidents typically happen to *other* people, not to us. We deny the possibility that an accident may befall us or someone we care about. The hard fact is, anyone can fall victim to an accident, even under the most ordinary of circumstances. And the more unprepared we are for an accident, the more our loved ones tend to suffer as a result.

So, the sooner we accept the reality that an accident can also happen to us, the sooner we can prepare for the unexpected.

This is why the Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company Inc., (Philamlife), the largest and most diversified insurance company in the country, introduced last Feb. 4 two new accident insurance products: **3-in-1 Protector** and **Life Protector**.

3-in-1 Protector is a personal accident plan that provides three benefits: accidental death, permanent and total disability and hospital income for as low as P1,010 a year.

Life Protector, on the other hand. provides the same basic benefits but with the following options: medical expense reimbursement and accident weekly income. As an added feature, the medical expense reimbursement benefit can also include illness coverage.

Life Protector comes in various combinations and is available for as low as P2,000 a year.

For more details, talk to a Philamlife agent or call 528-2003 now.

ANG SUMMA CUM LAUDE NG EDUCATION PLANS

Education Protection Plan na, May Life, Accident & Health Insurance pa for you and your child.

- **Guaranteed college education benefits for your child**
- **Guaranteed life insurance protection for your child**
- **Guaranteed comprehensive life and accident protection for the payor/parent**

Scholar Gold *Advantage*

A promise you can keep.

by

PHILAM LIFE

PHILAM LIFE TLC

Contact your Philamlife Financial Advisor or Call 528-2000. Ngayon na!

In Hongkong, you can call (852) 2591-2218.

AIG A Member of American International Group, Inc

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services: Life and General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre Need Plans • Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards

Yes! I want to find out more about Philamlife's **Scholar Gold Advantage**.

Name: ______ Specific Duty/Position: ______ Age: ____ Age of Child: ____
Home Address: ______ Home Phone: ______ Fax/Cell/Email: ______
Business Address: ______ Business Phone: ______

Please send this coupon to Marketing Services, PHILAMLIFE, 1440 U.N. Avenue, Manila or fax to 526-9570.